
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WETLAND MITIGATION MONITORING REPORT: YEAR 2014

*Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch
Park County, Montana*



Prepared for:

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December 2014

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WETLAND MITIGATION MONITORING REPORT:

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*Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch
Park County, Montana
Constructed: 2009*

MDT Project Number STPX-BR 34(16)
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1. INTRODUCTION

This 2014 Monitoring Report presents the results of the fifth and final year of monitoring at the Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch Wetland Mitigation Site. The site was developed to mitigate for wetland impacts associated with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) East River Road and Yellowstone River Bridge (northeast of Livingston) transportation projects. Remaining wetland credits were to be held in reserve for application against future MDT highway projects in Watershed 13, the Upper Yellowstone River. Figures 2 and 3 in Appendix A show the Monitoring Activity Locations and Mapped Site Features, respectively. The MDT Wetland Mitigation Site Monitoring Form, the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wetland Determination Data Forms for Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region (USACE 2010), and the MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Forms (MWAM) (Berglund and McEldowney 2008) are included in Appendix B. Appendix C contains project site photographs and Appendix D shows the project plan sheet.

The 12.6-acre Murphy Ox Yoke mitigation site is located east of US Highway 89 and south of Murphy Lane in Emigrant, Montana. The site lies west of the Yellowstone River, bordered by the Park Branch Canal to the east and US 89 to the west. The property is legally described as portions of Sections 28 and 33, Township 5 South, Range 8 East, Park County (Figure 1).

The purpose of the mitigation project was to restore, create, enhance, and preserve wetlands within a 12.6 acre tract on the Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch. The parcel is under a protective conservation easement between MDT, the landowners, and Gallatin Valley Land Trust. The project site encompasses upland, wet meadow, riparian, emergent, and scrub/shrub wetland habitats. Historic wetlands located within the project area had been drained for agricultural purposes. Mitigation efforts have sought to create wetland areas and increase hydrology throughout the site.

Goals of the Murphy Ox Yoke mitigation project are to:

- Maximize emergent wetland development by excavating 4.1 acres to expose shallow groundwater to improve wildlife habitat, nutrient/toxicant removal functions, surface water storage functions, and production export/food chain support on the site;
- Restore/rehabilitate approximately 2.0 acres of existing, degraded wetlands by plugging a drainage ditch, removing spoil piles, augmenting vegetation through planting and seeding, implementing a weed management plan, removing grazing, installing fencing to exclude livestock, and establishing a perpetual conservation easement.

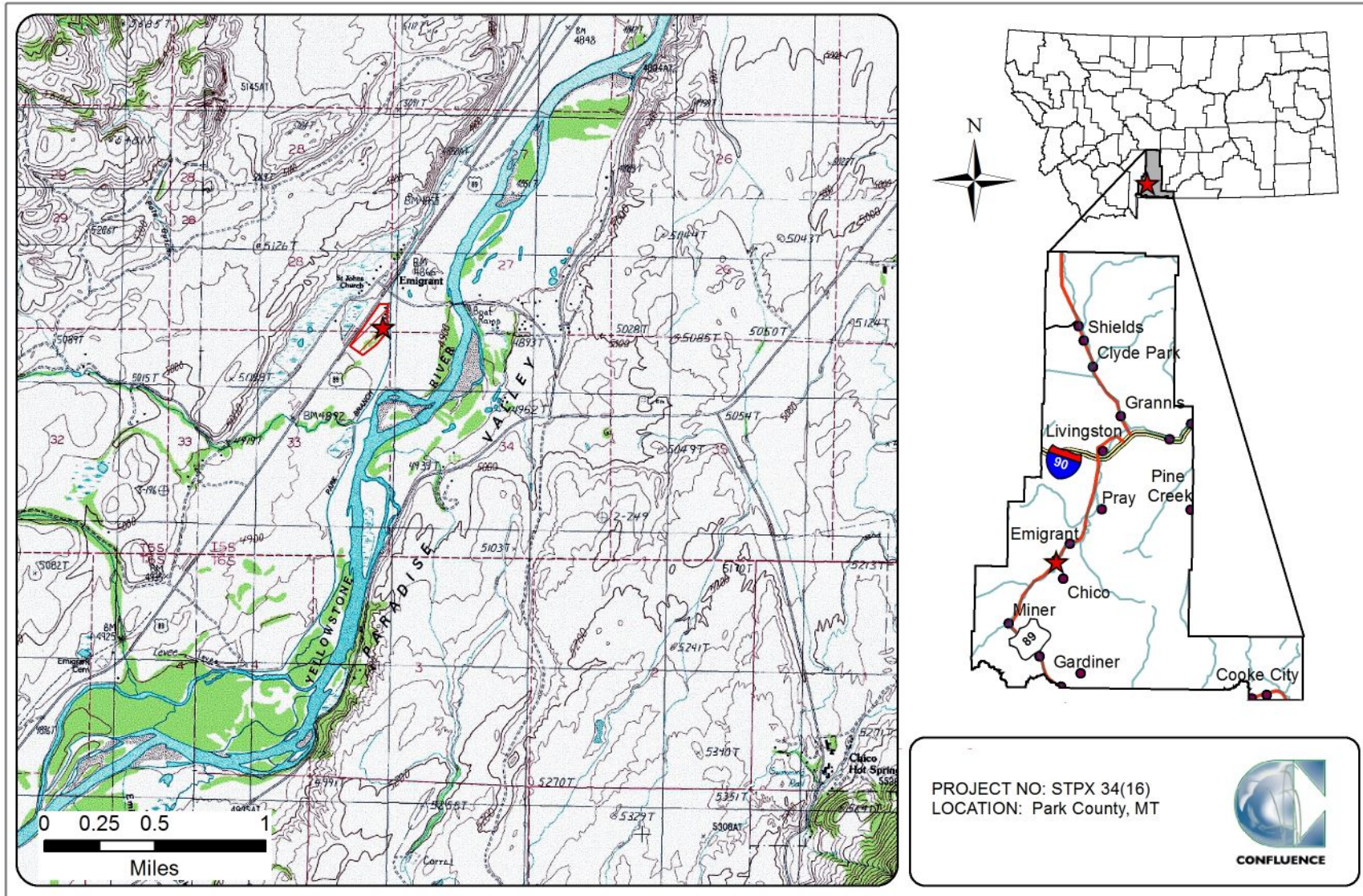


Figure 1. Project Location of the Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch Wetland Mitigation Site.

- Create a scrub-shrub component within and around the periphery of created wetlands and increase the scrub-shrub component in existing wetlands; and
- Enhance and protect uplands and preserve existing wetlands within the project area by implementing a weed management plan, installing fencing and removing grazing from the site.

The Park Branch irrigation canal raises groundwater elevations throughout the project area. A culvert under Highway 89 diverts the outflow from Murphy Swamp to Murphy Creek, a perennial stream that parallels the east property boundary, and ultimately discharges to the Yellowstone River east of the project site. An artesian well northwest of the mitigation site provides an additional source of water to support the wetland system.

Crediting details for the project (Table 1) were compiled from credit ratios and acreages approved by the USACE in a letter to MDT dated September 17, 2008.

Table 1. Wetland Crediting Summary.

Proposed Mitigation Features	Compensatory Mitigation Type	COE Mitigation Ratios	Proposed Acres	Final Credit Estimate (Acres)
Creation of palustrine emergent and scrub/shrub wetlands through shallow excavation to groundwater in Cell 1.	Creation	1:1	2.70	2.70
Creation of palustrine emergent and scrub/shrub wetlands through shallow excavation to groundwater in Cell 2.	Creation	1:1	1.40	1.40
Rehabilitation of wetlands in NW corner of site west of the Park Branch Canal.	Restoration (Rehabilitation)	1.5:1	2.00	1.33
Preservation of existing scrub/shrub and emergent wetlands not included in restoration/rehabilitation.	Preservation	4:1	1.89	0.47
Upland buffer included in the conservation easement area to protect aquatic resources within project limits.	Upland Buffer	5:1	3.00	0.60
Total				6.50

The approved success/performance standards are listed below. The baseline delineation was completed using the 1987 USACE Wetland Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987). The 2010 Regional Supplement: Western



Valleys, Mountains and Coast Regions (USACE 2010) was used to delineate wetlands for subsequent monitoring.

1. **Wetland Hydrology Success** will be achieved where wetland hydrology is present as specified in the technical guidelines in the 1987 Manual. Wetland hydrology will be confirmed through continued monitoring of an existing piezometer that was left undisturbed during and following construction as well as through the periodic observations of surface water across the site and saturated soil conditions during the annual mid-season monitoring event.
2. **Hydric Soil Success** will be achieved where hydric soil conditions are present (provided by the most recent Natural Resource Conservation Service [NRCS] definitions for hydric soil) or appear to be forming, the soil is sufficiently stable to prevent erosion, and the soil is able to support plant cover. Since typical hydric soil indicators may require long periods to form, a lack of distinctive hydric soil features will not be considered a failure if hydrologic and vegetation success is achieved.
3. **Hydrophytic Vegetation Success** will be achieved where wetland vegetation is dominant as specified in the technical guidelines established in the 1987 Manual and noxious weeds do not exceed 5 percent cover. The following concept of “dominance”, as defined in the 1987 Manual, will be applied during routine wetland determinations in created/restored wetlands: *“Subjectively determine the dominant species by estimating those having the largest relative basal area (woody overstory), greatest height (woody understory), greatest percentage of aerial cover (herbaceous understory), and/or greatest number of stems (woody vines) (Environmental Laboratory 1987).*

Additionally, as provided in guidance from the USACE, hydrophytic vegetation success will include achieving a minimal overall vegetation cover of 80 percent in created wetland areas within 5 years following site construction. For areas within and around the periphery of Cells 1 and 2, successful creation of scrub/shrub wetland will be achieved when 550 (50 percent of total plantings) or more live wetland shrubs are present in these areas (cumulatively within 5 years following site construction).

4. **Restoration/Rehabilitation Success** will be achieved when the site is fenced, grazing is removed from existing wetlands, and the drain ditch is plugged.
5. **Upland Buffer Success** will be achieved when the site is fenced and noxious weeds do not exceed 5 percent cover within the buffer.
6. **Site Protection** will be achieved when MDT and the landowner have successfully agreed upon, signed, and filed a perpetual conservation easement for the project area.

2. METHODS

The first year of monitoring was conducted in July 2010. The fifth year of monitoring was completed on July 18, 2014. Information for the Mitigation Monitoring Form and Wetland Determination Data Form was entered on an electronic tablet during the field investigation. Monitoring activity locations were located using a global positioning system (GPS) as shown on Figure 2 (Appendix A). Information collected included wetland delineation, vegetation community mapping, vegetation transect monitoring, weed assessment, planted woody species survival assessment, soil data, hydrology, bird and wildlife use documentation, photographic documentation, and a non-engineering examination of the infrastructure established within the mitigation project area (Appendix B).

2.1. Hydrology

Technical criteria for wetland hydrology guidelines have been established as “permanent or periodic inundation, or soil saturation within 12 inches of the ground surface for a significant period (usually 14 days or 12.5 percent or more during the growing season)” (Environmental Laboratory 1987). Systems with continuous inundation or saturation for greater than 12.5 percent of the growing season are considered jurisdictional wetlands. The growing season is defined for purposes of this report as the number of days where there is a 50 percent probability that the minimum daily temperature is greater than or equal to 28.5 degrees Fahrenheit (Environmental Laboratory 1987). The growing season recorded for the meteorological station at Livingston FAA airport, Montana (245086) extends from May 6 through September 24 for a total of 141 days (USDA 2010). Areas defined as wetlands would require 18 days of inundation or saturation within 12 inches of the ground surface to meet the hydrology criteria.

Hydrologic indicators, as outlined on the Wetland Determination Data Form, were documented at four points within the project area. Hydrologic assessments allow evaluation of mitigation criteria addressing inundation and saturation requirements. The hydrologic indicators were evaluated according to features observed during the site visit. The data were recorded on electronic field data sheets (Appendix B). Areas of surface inundation were delineated during the growing season via aerial photography, staff gage pool elevation measurements, general observations, and GPS measurements of the wetted perimeter during site investigation.

Five shallow groundwater wells were installed onsite in November 2002 and two additional wells were installed in April 2008 (Figure 2, Appendix A). Only one well (Well-1) remained following construction. Water levels were measured in Well 1 with an electronic water level meter during the annual monitoring event. The water surface level was recorded electronically on the Mitigation Monitoring Form (Appendix B). Soil pits excavated during the wetland delineation were used to evaluate groundwater levels within 18 inches of the ground surface. The observed groundwater data were recorded electronically on the Wetland Determination Data Form (Appendix B).

2.2. Vegetation

The boundaries of dominant, species-based vegetation communities were determined in the field during the active growing season and subsequently delineated on the 2014 aerial photograph. Community types were named based on the predominant vegetation species that characterized each mapped polygon (Figure 3, Appendix A). The percent cover of identified species within a community type was estimated and recorded using the following ranges listed on the monitoring form: 0 (less than 1 percent), 1 (1 to 5 percent), 2 (6 to 10), 3 (11 to 20 percent), 4 (21 to 50 percent), and 5 (greater than 50 percent) (Appendix B).

Temporal changes in vegetation were evaluated through annual assessment of two vegetation belt transects approximately 10 feet wide and 450 and 610 feet long (transect T-1 and transect T-2, respectively). The transect locations were recorded with a GPS unit. Spatial changes in the dominant vegetation communities were recorded along the stationed transect. The percent aerial cover of each vegetation species within the belt transect was estimated using the same values and cover ranges listed for the vegetation communities (Appendix B). A comprehensive list of plant species observed from 2010 through 2014 has been included in this monitoring report (Table 2 and Appendix B). Photographs were taken at the endpoints of each transect during the monitoring event (Appendix C).

The revegetation design specified the seeding of disturbed upland areas and the seeding and planting of willow cuttings and containerized trees and shrubs in the constructed wetlands. Survival of the woody species are evaluated annually to the extent possible. The number and condition of individual woody plants observed during monitoring was recorded on the Mitigation Monitoring Form (Appendix B).

The Montana State Noxious Weed List (December 2013), prepared by the Montana Department of Agriculture, was used to categorize weeds identified within the site. The location of noxious weeds was noted in the field and mapped on the 2014 aerial photo (Figure 3, Appendix A). The noxious weed species identified are color-coded. The locations are denoted with the symbol “x”, “▲”, or “■” representing 0 to 0.1 acre, 0.1 to 1.0 acre, or greater than 1.0 acre in extent, respectively. Cover classes are represented on Figure 3 by T, L, M, or H, for less than 1 percent, 1 to 5 percent, 6 to 25 percent, and 26 to 100 percent, respectively.

2.3. Soil

Soil information was obtained from the *Soil Survey for Park County Area and in situ* soil descriptions (USDA 2010). Soil cores were excavated using a hand auger and evaluated according to procedures outlined in the 1987 USACE Manual and 2010 Regional Supplement. A description of the soil profile, including hydric indicators when present, was recorded on a Wetland Determination Data Form for each profile (Appendix B).

2.4. Wetland Delineation

Waters of the US, including jurisdictional wetlands and special aquatic sites were delineated throughout the project area in accordance with criteria established in the 1987 USACE Manual and the 2010 Regional Supplement: Western Valleys, Mountains and Coast Regions (USACE 2010).

In order to delineate a representative area as jurisdictional, the technical criteria for hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soil, and wetland hydrology, as described in the 1987 USACE Manual and 2010 Regional Supplement must be satisfied. The name and indicator status of plant species was derived from the 2014 National Wetland Plant List (NWPL) (Lichvar *et al.*, 2014). A Routine Level-2 On-site Determination Method (Environmental Laboratory 1987) was used to delineate waters of the US within the project boundaries. The information was recorded electronically on the Wetland Determination Data Form (Appendix B).

The wetland boundary was determined in the field based on changes in plant communities and/or hydrology, and changes in soil characteristics. Topographic relief boundaries within the project area were also examined and cross referenced with soil and vegetation communities as supportive information for the delineation. Vegetation composition, soil characteristics, and hydrology were assessed at likely wetland and upland boundaries. If all three parameters met the criteria, the area was designated as wetland and mapped by vegetation community type. When any one of the parameters did not exhibit positive wetland indicators, the area was determined to be upland unless the site exhibited problematic vegetation, soil (i.e. recently developed), and/or hydrological indicators based on the guidance in the Regional Supplement. The wetland boundary was GPS surveyed, imported into Geographic Information System (GIS) format, and is shown on the 2014 aerial imagery (Appendix A). Wetland acreages were calculated using GIS methods.

2.5. Wildlife

Observations of use by mammal, reptile, amphibian, and bird species were recorded on the Mitigation Monitoring Form during the site visit. Indirect use indicators, including tracks, scat, burrow, eggshells, skins, and bones, were also recorded. Direct sampling methods, such as snap traps, live traps, and pitfall traps, were not used. A comprehensive list of wildlife observed from 2010 through 2014 during the annual monitoring events has been compiled.

2.6. Functional Assessment

The 2008 MDT MWAM was used to evaluate functions and values on the site from 2010 to 2014. This method provides an objective means of assigning wetlands an overall rating and provides regulators a means of assessing mitigation success based on wetland functions. Functions are self-sustaining properties of a wetland ecosystem that exist in the absence of society and relate to ecological significance without regard to subjective human values (Berglund and McEldowney 2008). Field data for this assessment were collected during the site visit. An MWAM was completed for each of the three wetland assessment

areas (AA) and include a Creation AA, a Restoration AA, and a Preservation AA (Appendix B).

2.7. Photo Documentation

Monitoring at photo points provided supplemental information documenting wetland and upland conditions, trends, current land uses surrounding the site, and vegetation transect changes. Photographs were taken at five established photo points throughout the mitigation site during the site visit. Photo point locations were recorded with a resource grade GPS unit (Figure 2, Appendix A). Appendix C includes photographs from the photo points, transect end points, and wetland data points.

2.8. GPS Data

Site features and survey points were collected with a resource grade Thales Pro Mark III GPS unit during the 2014 monitoring season. Points were collected using WAAS-enabled differential correction satellites, typically improving resolution to sub-meter accuracy. The collected data were then transferred to a personal computer, imported into GIS, and presented in Montana State Plane Single Zone NAD 83 meters (Figure 2, Appendix A). Site features and survey points that were located with GPS included wetland boundaries, fence boundaries, photograph points, transect endpoints, and wetland data points.

2.9. Maintenance Needs

A non-engineering level, cursory examination was conducted of all man-made structures within the site including: outlets, berms, water control features, fences, etc. to determine if any maintenance was required. Details of observed maintenance requirements were recorded on the Mitigation Monitoring Form (Appendix B).

3. RESULTS

3.1. Hydrology

Climate data from the Livingston 12 S (245080) station recorded an average annual precipitation rate of 16.15 inches from June 1951 to August 2014 (Western Region Climate Center [WRCC] 2014). Annual precipitation rates recorded in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 were 14.95 inches, 13.42 inches, 10.40 inches, 15.90 inches, and 14.61 inches respectively. The monthly precipitation total from January through August is 11.89 inches (long-term average), 10.12 inches (2010), 10.43 inches (2011), 7.8 inches (2012), 10.77 inches (2013), and 14.61 inches (2014). These data indicate precipitation during the previous four growing seasons has been below average and 2014 was 23% above average.

The Yellowstone River flows east of the project site and the Park Branch Canal. Murphy Creek is a perennial stream that originates at the outlet of Murphy Swamp, a spring-fed pond located west of US Highway 89 and the project area. Average discharges for Murphy Creek measured east of the Park Branch Canal during 2003 and 2004 were 0.75 cubic feet per second (cfs). The Park Branch

Canal that parallels the east boundary of the project area typically operates from April 15 to October 30.

One mitigation goal included creating shallow water, emergent wetlands within two excavated cells (Cell 1, north; Cell 2, south) by excavating the soil surface to intercept the groundwater table. The east end of the abandoned drainage ditch north of Cell 1 was plugged and has promoted elevated groundwater elevations throughout the northwest area of the mitigation site. Murphy Creek and an artesian spring located in the northwest corner of the site provided surface water to Cell 1 and the adjacent pre-existing wetlands with the Park Branch Canal likely supplementing groundwater to these areas. Elevated groundwater levels and hydrology from Murphy Creek have contributed to long-term wetland hydrology and frequent inundation within Cell 2. Direct precipitation and surface run-off contribute minimally to wetland hydrology at this site.

Site-wide inundation levels in 2014 were similar to those observed in 2013 and 2012 (Mitigation Monitoring Form, Appendix B). The average depth of inundation in 2014 was 0.5 feet with a range of 0.0 to 2.5 feet. Depth of water at the emergent vegetation-open water boundary was 1.5 feet. Surface water levels were deepest in the plugged drainage ditch northwest of Cell 1 and in the north half of Cell 1. Approximately 25 percent of the site was inundated during the site visit. Four data points were sampled in 2014 to assist in determining the wetland and upland boundaries (Figure 2, Appendix A and Monitoring Form, Appendix B). Data points M-1 and M-3 were located in areas that met the wetland criteria. No wetland hydrology indicators were recorded at data points M-2 and M-4. Wetland hydrology indicators at M-1 and M-3 included geomorphic position and FAC-Neutral test. The groundwater depth measured in Well 1 (Figure 2, Appendix A) was 0.5 feet bgs, 0.2 feet higher than in 2013 and approximately average for the 4 years of monitoring. Murphy Creek was flowing during the site visit.

Table 2. Recorded groundwater elevations within well MW-1 at Murphy Ox Yoke.

	Year				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
MW-1 (ft below ground surface)	1.50	0.31	0.40	0.70	0.50

3.2. Vegetation

One hundred and eleven plant species have been observed site-wide from 2010 to 2014 (Table 3). Vegetation communities were mapped and named according to plant composition and dominance. The composition of each community is listed on the Mitigation Monitoring Form (Appendix B). The community boundaries are shown on Figure 3 in Appendix A.



Table 3. Vegetation species observed from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

Scientific Names	Common Names	WMVC Indicator Status ¹
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common Yarrow	FACU
<i>Agropyron sp.</i>	Wheatgrass	NL
<i>Agrostis gigantea</i>	Black Bent	FAC
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Spreading Bent	FAC
<i>Algae, green</i>	Algae, green	NL
<i>Algae, red</i>	Alage, red	NL
<i>Alopecurus arundinaceus</i>	Creeping Meadow-Foxtail	FAC
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Field Meadow-Foxtail	FAC
<i>Argentina anserina</i>	Silverweed cinquefoil	NL
<i>Asclepias sp.</i>	Milkweed	NL
<i>Bromus arvensis</i>	Field Brome	UPL
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	Smooth Brome	FAC
<i>Bromus vulgaris</i>	Colombian Brome	FACU
<i>Carex aquatilis</i>	Leafy Tussock Sedge	OBL
<i>Carex leptalea</i>	Bristly-Stalk Sedge	OBL
<i>Carex nebrascensis</i>	Nebraska Sedge	OBL
<i>Carex praegracilis</i>	Clustered Field Sedge	FACW
<i>Carex rostrata</i>	Swollen Beaked Sedge	OBL
<i>Carex sp.</i>	Sedge	NL
<i>Carex utriculata</i>	Northwest Territory Sedge	OBL
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Lamb's-Quarters	FACU
<i>Chenopodium leptophyllum</i>	Narrow-Leaf Goosefoot	FACU
<i>Chenopodium sp.</i>	Goosefoot	NL
<i>Cicuta douglasii</i>	Western Water-Hemlock	OBL
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canadian Thistle	FAC
<i>Cornus alba</i>	Red Osier	FACW
<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>	Gypsy-Flower	FACU
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Orchard Grass	FACU
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair Grass	FACW
<i>Descurainia sophia</i>	Herb Sophia	NL
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian-Olive	FAC
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Common Spike-Rush	OBL
<i>Elymus cinereus</i>	Great Basin Wildrye	NL
<i>Elymus repens</i>	Creeping Wild Rye	FAC
<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i>	Slender Wild Rye	FAC
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	Fringed Willowherb	FACW
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	FAC
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Tall Scouring-Rush	FACW
<i>Galium palustre</i>	Common Marsh Bedstraw	OBL
<i>Glyceria grandis</i>	American Manna Grass	OBL
<i>Glyceria striata</i>	Fowl Manna Grass	OBL
<i>Glycyrrhiza lepidota</i>	American Licorice	FAC
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	Common Sunflower	FACU
<i>Helianthus nuttallii</i>	Nuttall's Sunflower	FACW
<i>Hordeum jubatum</i>	Fox-Tail Barley	FAC
<i>Iva axillaris</i>	Deer-Root	FAC

¹ 2014 NWPL (Lichvar *et al.*).

New species identified in 2014 are bolded.

Table 3 (continued). Vegetation species observed from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

Scientific Names	Common Names	WMVC Indicator Status ¹
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Joint-Leaf Rush	OBL
<i>Juncus balticus</i>	Baltic Rush	FACW
<i>Juncus compressus</i>	Round-Fruit Rush	OBL
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Lamp Rush	FACW
<i>Juncus longistylis</i>	Long-Style Rush	FACW
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	Lesser Poverty Rush	FAC
<i>Juncus torreyi</i>	Torrey's Rush	FACW
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	FACU
<i>Lemna minor</i>	Common Duckweed	OBL
<i>Leymus cinereus</i>	Great Basin Lyme Grass	FAC
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Prairie Flax	NL
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound	FACU
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Alfalfa	UPL
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	White Sweetclover	NL
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Yellow Sweet-Clover	FACU
<i>Mentha arvensis</i>	American Wild Mint	FACW
<i>Mimulus glabratus</i>	Round-Leaf Monkey-Flower	OBL
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Oswego-Tea	FACU
<i>Myriophyllum sp.</i>	Water-Milfoil	NL
<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>	Western-Wheat Grass	FACU
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	Spotted Lady's-Thumb	FACW
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary Grass	FACW
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Common Timothy	FAC
<i>Plantago major</i>	Great Plantain	FAC
<i>Poa palustris</i>	Fowl Blue Grass	FAC
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Kentucky Blue Grass	FAC
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	Spotted Lady's-Thumb	FACW
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	Annual Rabbit's-Foot Grass	FACW
<i>Populus angustifolia</i>	Narrow-Leaf Cottonwood	FACW
<i>Potentilla gracilis</i>	Graceful Cinquefoil	FAC
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Tall Buttercup	FAC
<i>Ribes lacustre</i>	Bristly Black Gooseberry	FAC
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Rambler Rose	FACU
<i>Rosa woodsii</i>	Woods' Rose	FACU
<i>Ruppia maritima</i>	Beaked Ditch-Grass	OBL
<i>Salix bebbiana</i>	Gray Willow	FACW
<i>Salix drummondiana</i>	Drummond's Willow	FACW
<i>Salix exigua</i>	Narrow-Leaf Willow	FACW
<i>Salix lasiandra</i>	Pacific Willow	FACW
<i>Salix lemmonii</i>	Lemmon's Willow	FACW
<i>Salix planifolia</i>	Tea-Leaf Willow	OBL
<i>Schedonorus pratensis</i>	Meadow False Rye Grass	FACU
<i>Schoenoplectus acutus</i>	Hard-Stem Club-Rush	OBL
<i>Scirpus microcarpus</i>	Red-Tinge Bulrush	OBL
<i>Sisymbrium altissimum</i>	Tall Hedge-Mustard	FACU

¹ 2014 NWPL (Lichvar et al.).

New species identified in 2014 are bolded.

Table 3 (continued). Vegetation species observed from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

Scientific Names	Common Names	WMVC Indicator Status ¹
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Climbing Nightshade	FAC
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canadian Goldenrod	FACU
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Field Sow-Thistle	FACU
<i>Sparganium androcladum</i>	Branching Bur-reed	NL
<i>Sparganium emersum</i>	European Burr-Reed	OBL
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Common Dandelion	FACU
<i>Thlaspi arvense</i>	Field Pennycress	UPL
<i>Tragopogon dubius</i>	Meadow Goat's-beard	NL
<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Alsike Clover	FAC
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	FACU
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	FAC
<i>Triglochin maritima</i>	Seaside Arrow-Grass	OBL
<i>Triglochin palustris</i>	Marsh Arrow-Grass	OBL
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	Narrow-Leaf Cat-Tail	OBL
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Broad-Leaf Cat-Tail	OBL
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	FAC
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	River-Bank Grape	FACU

¹ 2014 NWPL (Lichvar *et al.*).

New species identified in 2014 are bolded.

Plant communities have remained comparatively consistent between 2011 and 2014. Ten wetland and three upland community types were observed on site in 2014. The wetland communities were Type 4 - *Salix exigua/Salix lasiandra*, Type 7 - *Alopecurus pratensis/Carex spp.*, Type 9 - *Carex nebrascensis/Carex utriculata*, Type 10 - *Salix exigua/Salix drummondiana*, Type 12 - *Typha latifolia*, Type 13 - *Glyceria grandis/Schedonorus pratensis*, Type 14 - *Typha latifolia/Glyceria grandis*, Type 15 - *Deschampsia cespitosa*, Type 16 - Aquatic Macrophytes, and Type 17 - *Carex nebrascensis/Salix exigua*. Upland communities included Type 1 - *Schedonorus pratensis/Elymus repens*, Type 5 - *Elymus repens/Pascopyrum smithii*, and Type 11 - *Bromus inermis/Elymus repens*. These communities are discussed below.

Wetland community Type 4 – *Salix exigua/Salix lasiandra* was mapped across 0.28 acres and includes the pre-existing shrub/scrub, riparian corridor that encompassed Murphy Creek at the west entrance to the site. This community displayed a slight increase from 0.26 acres in 2013 to 0.28 acres in 2014. The community was dominated by narrow-leaf willow (*Salix exigua*), Pacific willow (*Salix lasiandra*), red-osier dogwood (*Cornus alba*), American mannagrass (*Glyceria grandis*), American licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*), Wood's rose (*Rosa woodsii*), and broad-leaf cat-tail (*Typha latifolia*).

Wetland community Type 7 – *Alopecurus pratensis/Carex spp.* was identified as 2.04 acres of pre-existing, palustrine emergent wetland located north of Cell 1 that was targeted for restoration. The vegetation was dominated by field

meadow-foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*), Nebraska sedge (*Carex nebrascensis*), Northwest Territory sedge (*Carex utriculata*), and Baltic rush (*Juncus balticus*). Twenty three other species were identified at five percent or less cover in this community. The area characterized by community 7 was saturated to the ground surface at several locations in 2014.

Wetland community Type 9 – *Carex nebrascensis*/*Carex utriculata* was found in the 0.23 acre pre-existing, palustrine emergent wetland located between Cell 2 and the Murphy Creek riparian corridor (Community 10). Murphy Creek flows through the west edge of the community. The predominant species were Nebraska sedge, Northwest Territory sedge, Canadian thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), and field meadow foxtail.

The second *Salix* community, Type 10 – *Salix exigua*/*Salix drummondiana*, was identified in 2.16 acres of the pre-existing shrub/scrub wetland that encompassed Murphy Creek and paralleled the east property boundary. The dominant species were narrow-leaf willow, Drummond willow (*Salix drummondiana*), Pacific willow, Lemmon's willow (*Salix lemmonii*), diamond-leaf willow (*Salix planifolia*), gray willow (*Salix bebbiana*), broad-leaf cat-tail, and Northwest Territory sedge. Thirteen other species were also identified with a trace to five percent cover in this community.

Wetland community Type 12 – *Typha latifolia* was identified in a 0.52 acre pre-existing, palustrine emergent depression within the Murphy Creek corridor. The inundated community was dominated by broad-leaf cat-tail, Northwest Territory sedge, and Baltic rush. Other species observed included common spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris*), Nebraska sedge, and lamp rush (*Juncus effusus*).

Wetland community Type 13 – *Glyceria grandis*/*Schedonorus pratensis* was identified in 0.53 acres along the southern extent of Cell 2. First identified in 2011, this community has developed within upland community Type 1 – *Schedonorus pratensis*/*Elymus repens* as wetland conditions continued to develop. American mannagrass, meadow false rye grass (*Schedonorus pratensis*), broad-leaf cat-tail, common spike-rush, smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*), Baltic rush, and Northwest Territory sedge dominated the plant community. Fourteen other species were also identified with a trace to five percent cover in this community. Bare ground encompassed one to five percent of the total surface area in this community.

Wetland community Type 14 – *Typha latifolia*/*Glyceria grandis* developed from Type 3 – *Typha latifolia*/bare ground (2011) that was mapped within the disturbed, excavated footprint of constructed wetland cells 1 and 2. This community encompassed 2.11 acres in 2014, an increase of 0.18 acres since 2013. Broad-leaf cat-tail, American mannagrass, common spike-rush, Baltic rush and 24 other species dominated the plant community. The community had an average inundation depth of 0.25 feet of water in 2014.

Wetland community Type 15 – *Deschampsia caespitosa* developed on 0.59 acres from upland community 6 in the south half of Cell 1. The predominant species in 2014 were field meadow-foxtail, tufted hairgrass, meadow false rye grass, Arctic rush, and western-wheatgrass. Seven other species were observed with a trace to five percent cover.

Wetland community Type 16 – Aquatic Macrophytes covered 1.17 acres of the aquatic bed wetland that has developed in the perennially inundated area of Cells 1. The aquatic bed was defined by open water with surface water depths at or greater than 0.5 meters (1.63 feet) “dominated by plants that grow principally on or below the surface of the water for most of the growing season in most years” (Cowardin et al. 1979). Red and Green algae (protists) were observed across the water surface. Aquatic plants included beaked ditch-grass (*Ruppia maritima*), common duckweed (*Lemna minor*) and other unidentified aquatic macrophytes.

Wetland community Type 17 – *Carex nebrascensis*/*Salix exigua* was identified in 2014 at the west entrance to the site on 0.06 acres. Nebraska sedge, narrow-leaf willow and creeping wildrye (*Elymus repens*) dominated the plant community.

Upland community Type 1 – *Schedonorus pratensis*/*Elymus repens* was identified on 1.36 acres in the upland area at the south edge of Cell 2 and the mitigation project. This community decreased by 0.38 acres since 2012 due to expanding wetland area. This community included meadow false rye grass, creeping wildrye, field meadow-foxtail, smooth brome, and white clover (*Trifolium repens*).

Upland community Type 5 – *Elymus repens*/*Pascopyrum smithii* was located on 0.39 acres in the west boundary of the project, adjacent to US Highway 89. The plant species were dominated by creeping wildrye, western-wheatgrass, smooth brome, meadow false rye grass, and yellow sweet-clover (*Melilotus officinalis*).

Upland community Type 11 – *Bromus inermis*/*Elymus repens* was located on 1.15 acres along the east boundary of the project. Smooth brome, meadow false rye grass, and creeping wildrye dominated the herbaceous cover.

Infestations of Canadian thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) and gypsy-flower (*Cynoglossum officinale*), priority 2B noxious weeds, were identified at seventeen locations on site (Figure 3, Appendix A). Infestations were less than 0.1 acre in extent and less than 1 percent of the total cover of the infestation, with the exception of two Canadian thistle infestation in Communities 9 and 15 where infestation were 0.1 to 1.0 acre in size and total infestation cover was high (26-100 percent). Isolated plants of gypsy-flower and/or Canadian thistle were recorded within communities 1, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 17.

Two vegetation transects were monitored at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site in 2014 (Figure 2, Appendix A). The data recorded on transect T-1 (Mitigation Monitoring Form, Appendix B) were summarized in tabular and graphical formats (Table 4, Chart 1 and Chart 2, respectively). Photographs of the transect endpoints are presented in Appendix C.

Transect T-1 traverses Cell 2 (south cell), southwest to northeast. Wetland community Types 13 and 14 and upland community Types 1 and 5 were identified on the transect. The total cover of hydrophytic species and species diversity increased notably from 2010 to 2011 as reflected in the transition from Type 3 – *Typha*/bare ground to Type 14 – *Typha/Glyceria* and Type 2 – *Schedonorus* to Type 13 – *Glyceria/ Schedonorus*. There was an increase of wetland habitat along this transect from 75 percent to 88 percent between 2012 and 2013. There was a slight increase in length of wetland Type 14 – *Typha/Glyceria* and a decrease in wetland Type 13- *Glyceria/Schedonorus* in 2014.

Table 4. Data summary for transect T-1 from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch Wetland Mitigation Site.

Monitoring Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Transect Length (feet)	450	450	450	450	450
Vegetation Community Transitions along Transect	3	4	4	4	3
Vegetation Communities along Transect	3	4	4	4	4
Hydrophytic Vegetation Communities along Transect	1	2	2	2	2
Total Vegetative Species	39	31	27	23	26
Total Hydrophytic Species	9	16	20	19	20
Total Upland Species	30	15	7	4	6
Estimated % Total Vegetative Cover	70	85	95	95	95
Estimated % Unvegetated	25	15	5	5	5
% Transect Length Comprising Hydrophytic Vegetation Communities	37	75	75.6	87.8	87.8
% Transect Length Comprising Upland Vegetation Communities	63	25	24.4	12.2	12.2
% Transect Length Comprising Unvegetated Open Water	0	0	0.0	0.0	0
% Transect Length Comprising Mudflat	0	0	0.0	0	0

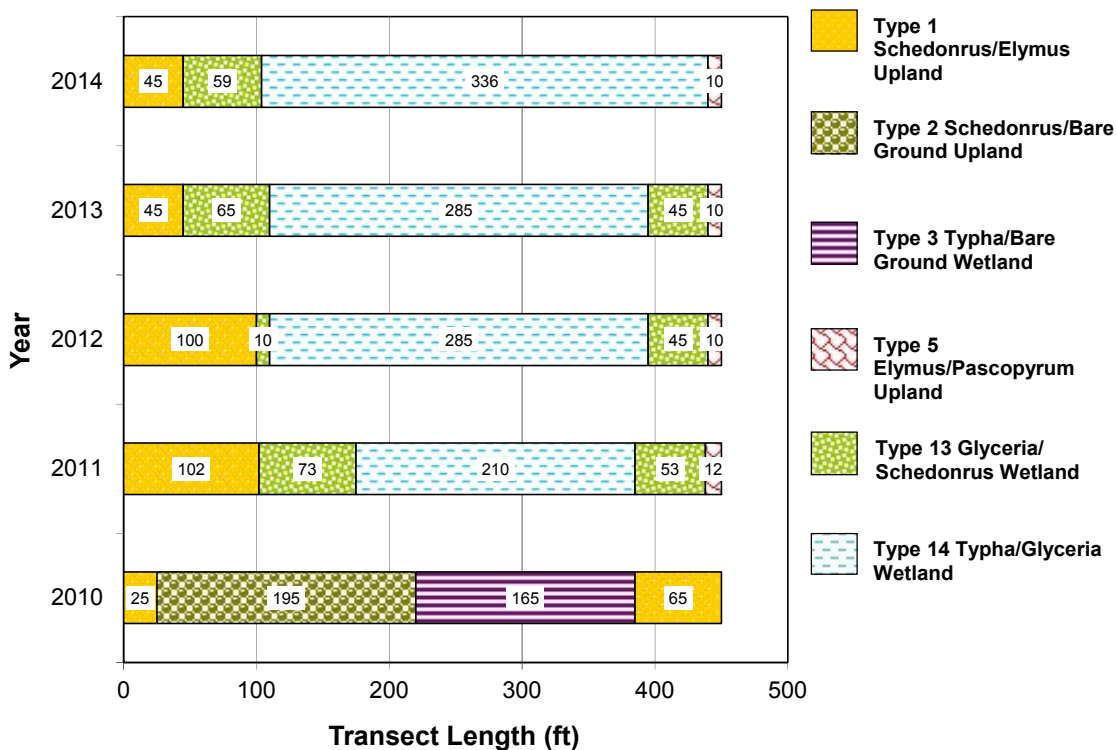


Chart 1. Transect map showing community types from 2010 to 2014 on transect T-1 from start (0 feet) to finish (450 feet) at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

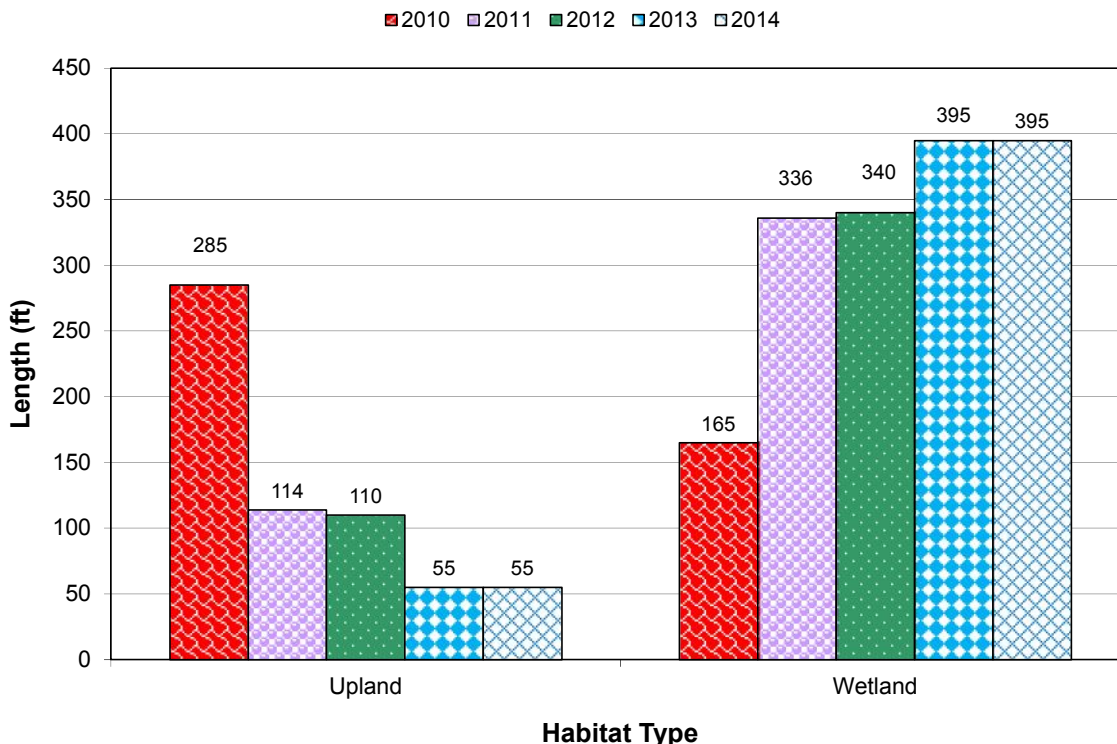


Chart 2. Length of habitat types on transect T-1 from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.



Data collected on transect T-2 (Monitoring Form, Appendix B) were summarized in tabular and graphic formats (Table 5, Charts 3 and 4, respectively). Photographs of the start and finish of Transect 2 are included in Appendix C. Transect T-2 traverses the west half of Cell 1, north to southeast. Four wetland vegetation communities, Types 7, 14, 15, and 16, and one upland community, Type 5, were identified on this transect. Few changes within the transect intervals were recorded from 2012 to 2014. Ninety-seven percent of the transect contained hydrophytic vegetation communities in 2014.

Table 5. Data summary for Transect 2 from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

Monitoring Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Transect Length (feet)	610	610	610	610	610
Vegetation Community Transitions along Transect	5	5	5	6	6
Vegetation Communities along Transect	4	5	5	5	5
Hydrophytic Vegetation Communities along Transect	2	4	4	4	4
Total Vegetative Species	40	34	34	34	37
Total Hydrophytic Species	23	21	22	20	23
Total Upland Species	17	13	12	14	14
Estimated % Total Vegetative Cover	75	80	85	90	90
Estimated % Unvegetated	25	20	15	10	10
% Transect Length Comprising Hydrophytic Vegetation Communities	78	95	95.1	96.7	96.7
% Transect Length Comprising Upland Vegetation Communities	21	5	4.9	3.3	3.3
% Transect Length Comprising Unvegetated Open Water	2	0	0.0	0.0	0
% Transect Length Comprising Mudflat	0	0	0.0	0	0

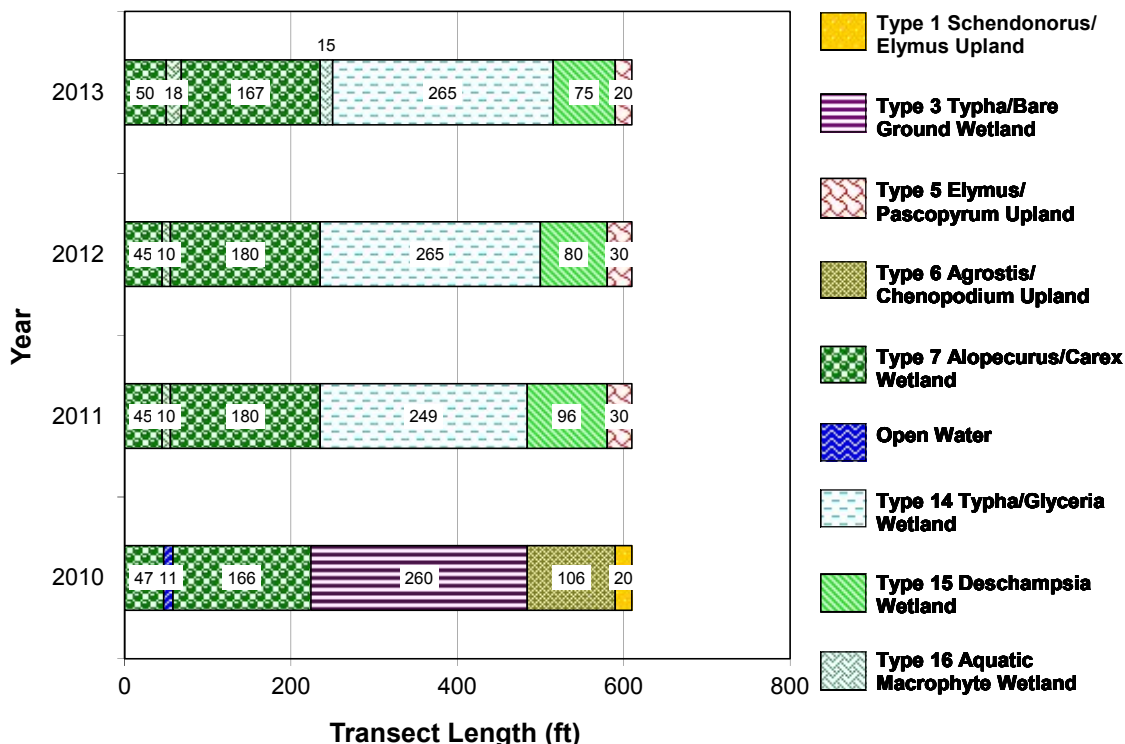


Chart 3. Transect maps showing community types from 2010 to 2014 on transect T-2 from transect start (0 feet) to finish (610 feet) at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.



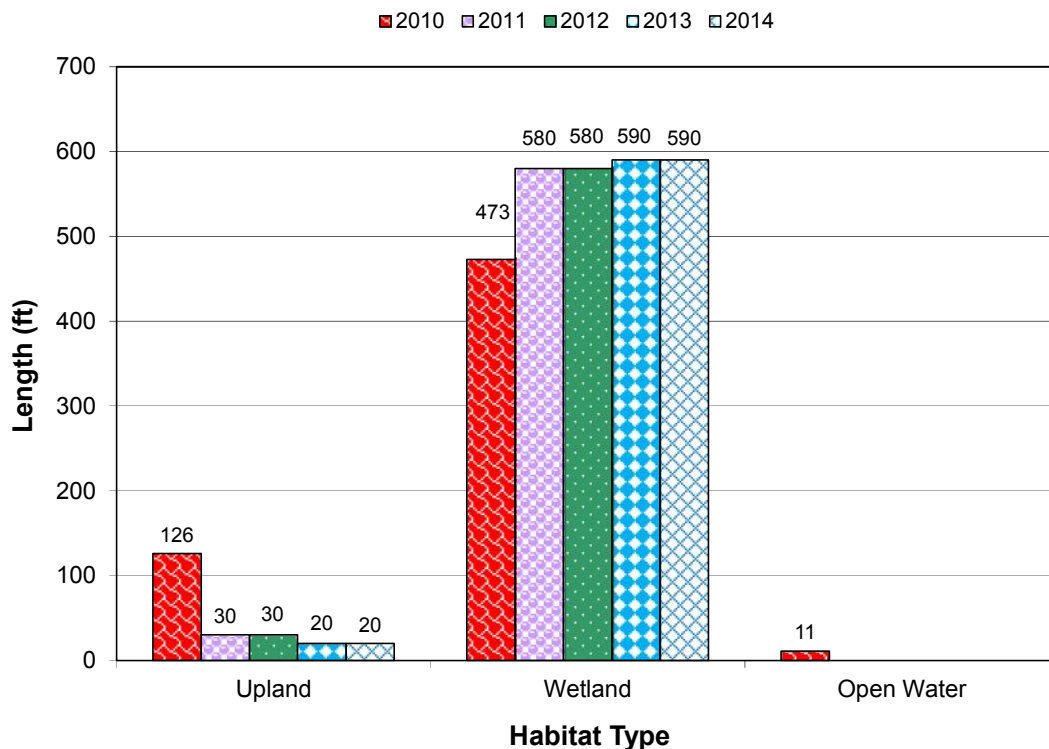


Chart 4. Length of habitat types within transect T-2 from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

The 2009 Mitigation Plan specified planting 120 one-gallon willow and black cottonwood species and 1,000 willow cuttings. An additional 250 willow cutting were installed in 2011, totaling 1,250. A majority of the woody plant materials were installed around the edges of Cells 1 and 2. Eighty containerized willows in excellent condition were noted in 2014. Approximately 75 live willow saplings propagated from cuttings were observed in 2014. The healthiest cuttings were larger in diameter and had been well-pruned at time of installation. None of the containerized cottonwood plants survived. Natural willow recruitment and expansion of the preserved shrub communities within the site has been observed.

3.3. Soil

The project site was mapped in the Park County Soil Survey (USDA 2010) as the Vendome Meadowcreek Complex found on 0 to 4 percent slopes. The Vendome series consists of very deep, well drained sandy loam soils located on alluvial fans, stream terraces, knolls, and plains. They are considered non-hydric and taxonomically classified as Aridic Haplustolls. The Meadowcreek series are poorly drained soils formed in alluvium. The fine-sandy loam soil unit is hydric and taxonomically classified as a Fluvaquentic Haplustolls. The map units did not generally correspond to the soil profile identified in the test pits. Site soils have been disturbed by construction activities, which may explain the discrepancy between mapped soil units and test pit results.



Soil test pits were excavated at four locations (M-1 through M-4, Figure 2, Appendix A). Data points M-1 and M-3 were located in wetland areas near the west project boundary in the south and north cells, respectively. Data point M-2 and M-4 were located in uplands near the west project boundary in the south and north cells, respectively.

The profile at M-1 revealed a black (7.5 YR 2.5/1) silt loam with dark grayish brown (10 YR 4/2) concentrations in the soil matrix, which met the criteria for redox dark surface and hydric soils. Data point M-2 revealed a brown (10 YR 4/3) friable, silt loam, which did not meet the hydric soil criteria. The soil at M-3 revealed a black (10 YR 2/1) silt loam, with 20 percent dark grayish brown (10 YR 4/1) redox concentrations. The redox dark surface was a positive hydric soil indicator. The profile at M-4 was a very dark grayish brown (10 YR 3/2) silt loam, with no hydric soil indicators observed.

3.4. Wetland Delineation

Four data points were used to help define the upland/wetland boundaries in 2014 (Figure 2; Wetland Determination Data Forms, Appendix B). All data points were located along the west project boundary of the mitigation site because the wetland boundary appeared to have changed in this area. Data point M-1 was located in wetland community Type 14 – *Typha latifolia/Glyceria grandis*. Data point M-2 was located in upland community Type 5 – *Elymus repens/Pascopyrum smithii*. M-3 was situated within wetland communities Type 17 – *Carex nebrascensis/Salix exigua* and M-4 located in upland community Type 1 – *Schedonorus pratensis/Elymus repens*. Data points M-1 and M-3 satisfied all three wetland criteria. Point M-2 did not satisfy any of the three wetland criteria while data point M-4 only satisfied the criteria for hydrophytic vegetation.

The July 18, 2014, delineation identified and mapped 5.45 acres of created, emergent wetland within and around the constructed cells, 2.0 acres of restored pre-existing palustrine emergent and scrub-shrub wetlands, and 2.24 acres of preserved pre-existing wetland (Table 6). Of note, the preservation wetland area had previously used the value (1.89 acres) presented within the approved mitigation plan. The actual acreage of the preservation area was calculated in GIS in 2014. There was an overall increase of 0.09 acres of wetland acreage at the Murphy Ox Yoke wetland mitigation site between 2013 and 2014. The increase in wetland acreage is due to continued inundation/saturation and hydrophytic plant establishment in wetland Cells 1 and 2 and expansion of wetlands outside of excavated cells.

Table 6. Total wetland acres delineated in 2003 and from 2010 through 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

Habitat	2003 ¹ (acres)	2010 (acres)	2011 (acres)	2012 (acres)	2013 (acres)	2014 (acres)
Existing Wetland Area (Preservation)	3.89*	5.18*	1.89	1.89	1.89	2.24***
Existing Wetland Area (Restoration)			2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Created Wetland Area - North Cell	---	2.15*	2.92	2.92	2.92	2.95
Created Wetland Area - South Cell	---		1.17	1.17	1.44	1.50
Created Wetlands Outside of Excavated Cells and Existing Restoration Area.	---	---	1.31	1.31	1.35	1.00
Created Open Water Area		0.02**	**	**	**	**
Total Wetland Habitat	3.89	7.35	9.29	9.29	9.60	9.69

¹Baseline delineation.

*Not differentiated in 2003 or 2010.

**Open water classified as aquatic bed wetland habitat in 2011 through 2014.

***Actual wetland preservation acreage calculated via GIS; previously used value identified in approved mitigation plan.

3.5. Wildlife

A comprehensive list of bird and other wildlife species observed directly or indirectly from 2010 to 2014 is presented in Table 7. Eight bird species were observed during the 2014 site visit including a gray catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*), mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*), and yellow-headed blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). Deer (*Odocoileus* sp.) tracks were also observed on site. MDT personnel noted that a recently constructed beaver dam was observed in Murphy Creek and a new muskrat lodge was identified within Cell 2.

Table 7. Comprehensive list of bird and other wildlife species observed directly or indirectly from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
AMPHIBIANS	
Columbia Spotted Frog	<i>Rana luteiventris</i>
Frog spp	
Western Toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>
Woodhouse's Toad	<i>Bufo woodhousii</i>
BIRDS	
American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>
American Goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>
American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>
American Tree Sparrow	<i>Spizella arborea</i>
American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>

Species observed in 2014 are bolded.



Table 7 (Continued). Comprehensive list of bird and other wildlife species observed directly or indirectly from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
BIRDS	
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Black-billed Magpie	<i>Pica hudsonia</i>
Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>
Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>
Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>
Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>
Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>
Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>
Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>
Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>
Yellow-headed Blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>
MAMMALS	
Beaver*	<i>Castor canadensis</i>
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>
Deer Mouse	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>
Deer Sp.	<i>Odocoileus sp.</i>

Species observed in 2014 are bolded.

*Species observed by MDT personnel.

Table 7. (Continued). Comprehensive list of bird and other wildlife species observed directly or indirectly from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Mitigation Site.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
MAMMALS	
Elk or Wapiti	<i>Cervus canadensis</i>
Meadow Vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>
Merriam's Shrew	<i>Sorex merriami</i>
Moose	<i>Alces americanus</i>
Mule Deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>
Muskrat*	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>
White-footed Mouse	<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>
REPTILES	
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>
Plains Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis radix</i>

Species observed in 2014 are bolded.

*Species observed by MDT personnel.

3.6. Functional Assessment

A baseline functional assessment using the 1999 MDT MWAM (Berglund 1999) was completed in 2003 for the wet meadow habitat located in the northwest corner of the site (2.00 acres, Community Type 7) and the remaining wetlands located west of the Park Branch Canal (1.89 acres, Communities 4, 9, 10, 12). The two assessment areas were rated as Category III wetlands in 2003 partly as a result of moderate to high level of disturbance site-wide. Historic forms of disturbance included grazing, haying, ditching, channel straightening, and roads.

The 2008 MWAM was used from 2010 to 2014 to assess functional values for three AAs, including the Created Wetland AA, the Wet Meadow Restoration AA, and Wetland Preservation AA west of the Park Branch Canal. The functional assessment results from 2010 to 2014 are summarized in Table 8 and the 2014 completed MWAM forms are included in Appendix B.

Table 8. Functions and Values of the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site in 2003 and 2010 to 2014.

Function and Value Parameters from the MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Method	2003 Baseline ¹ Wet Meadow	2010 Wet Meadow AA ²	2011 Wet Meadow Restoration AA ²	2012 Wet Meadow Restoration AA ²	2013 Wet Meadow Restoration AA ²	2014 Wet Meadow Restoration AA
Listed/Proposed T&E Species Habitat	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)
MTNHP Species Habitat	Low (0.1)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)
General Wildlife Habitat	Mod (0.5)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)
General Fish/Aquatic Habitat	NA0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Flood Attenuation	Low (0.1)	Low (0.1)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)
Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage	Mod (.5)	Mod (.5)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)
Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization	--	High (0.9)	High (1.0)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)
Production Export/ Food Chain Support	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)
Groundwater Discharge/Recharge	High (1.0)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)
Uniqueness	Low (0.3)	Low (0.2)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)
Recreation/Education Potential (bonus points)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.05)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)
Actual Points / Possible Points	4.4 / 10	5.45 / 10	6.6 / 10	6.5 / 10	6.5 / 10	6.5 / 10
% of Possible Score Achieved	44%	54.5%	66.0%	65.0%	65.0%	65.0%
Overall Category	III	III	II	III	III	III
Acreage of Assessed Aquatic Habitats within Easement (ac)	2.00	2.04	3.31	3.31	3.35	2.00
Functional Units (acreage x actual points) (f¹-)		11.12	21.85	21.52	21.52	13.00

¹Berglund 1999 MDT MWAM.

²Additional wetlands created adjacent to restoration area were included in this AA.



Table 8 (continued). Functions and Values of the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site in 2003 and 2010 to 2014.

Function and Value Parameters from the MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Method	2003 Baseline ¹ West of Canal	2010 West of Canal	2011 Wetland Preservation AA	2012 Wetland Preservation AA	2013 Wetland Preservation AA	2014 Wetland Preservation AA
Listed/Proposed T&E Species Habitat	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)
MTNHP Species Habitat	Low (0.1)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)
General Wildlife Habitat	Mod (0.7)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)
General Fish/Aquatic Habitat	--	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Flood Attenuation	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.7)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (0.8)	High (0.9)
Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage	High (0.8)	High (0.8)	High (0.8)	High (0.8)	High (0.8)	High (0.8)
Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (0.9)	High (1.0)
Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Production Export/ Food Chain Support	High (0.9)	Exc (1.0)	Exc. (1.0)	Exc. (1.0)	Exc. (1.0)	Exc (1.0)
Groundwater Discharge/Recharge	Low (0.1)	High (1.0)	High 1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Uniqueness	Mod (0.5)	Mod (0.4)	Mod (0.4)	Mod (0.4)	Mod (0.4)	Mod (0.4)
Recreation/Education Potential (bonus points)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.05)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)
Actual Points / Possible Points	6.2 / 10	7.65 / 10	8.0 / 10	8.0 / 10	7.8 / 10	8.0 / 10
% of Possible Score Achieved	56%	76.5%	80.0%	80.0%	78.0%	80.0%
Overall Category	III	II	II	II	II	II
Acreage of Assessed Aquatic Habitats within Easement (ac)	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	2.24
Functional Units (acreage x actual points) (f¹-)		14.46	15.12	15.12	14.74	17.92

¹Berglund 1999 MDT MWAM.



Table 8 (continued). Functions and Values of the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site in 2003 and 2010 to 2014.

Function and Value Parameters from the MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Method	2010 Created Wetland AA	2011 Created Wetland AA	2012 Created Wetland AA	2013 Created Wetland AA	2014 Created Wetland AA
Listed/Proposed T&E Species Habitat	Low (0.1)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)	Low (0.3)
MTNHP Species Habitat	Low (0.0)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)
General Wildlife Habitat	Low (0.3)	Mod (0.7)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)	High (0.9)
General Fish/Aquatic Habitat	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Flood Attenuation	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)	Mod (0.6)
Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage	Mod (0.5)	High (0.8)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	Mod (0.5)	Mod (0.7)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization	Low (0.2)	Mod (0.7)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Production Export/ Food Chain Support	Low (0.3)	Mod (0.5)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)	Mod (0.7)
Groundwater Discharge/Recharge	Mod (0.7)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)	High (1.0)
Uniqueness	Low (0.2)	Low (0.3)	Mod (0.4)	Mod (0.4)	Mod (0.4)
Recreation/Education Potential (bonus points)	Low (0.05)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)	Mod (0.1)
Actual Points / Possible Points	3.5 / 10	6.3 / 10	7.6 / 10	7.6 / 10	7.6 / 10
% of Possible Score Achieved	34.5%	63.0%	76.0%	76.0%	76.0%
Overall Category	III	III	II	II	II
Acreage of Assessed Aquatic Habitats within Easement (ac)	2.15	4.09	4.09	4.36	5.45
Functional Units (acreage x actual points) (f¹-)	7.53	25.77	31.08	33.14	41.42

¹Berglund 1999 MDT MWAM.



The Wet Meadow Restoration AA included 2.00 acres of existing wet meadow located in the northwest portion of the site identified as restoration within the mitigation plan. This AA was decreased in size in 2014 based on the exclusion of adjacent wetland habitat that developed outside of the excavated cells. These additional wetlands were included in the Created Wetland AA in 2014. This AA was classified as a Category III Wetland with 65 percent of the total points possible in 2014. Ratings were high for sediment/nutrient/toxicant removal and sediment/shoreline stabilization.

The Preservation AA encompassed 2.24 acres of the pre-existing shrub-scrub and emergent wetlands located west of the canal and the willow stand between the excavated cells. This area was initially identified as 1.89 acres in the approved mitigation plan; however, acreage calculation of this area using GIS methods indicated existing wetland preservation area to be 2.24 acres. This AA was rated as a Category II system with 80 percent of the total possible points and 17.92 total functional units in 2014. The overall rating was based on an excellent rating for production export/food chain support and high ratings for general wildlife habitat, flood attenuation, short and long term surface water storage, sediment/nutrient/toxicant removal, sediment/shoreline stabilization, and groundwater discharge and recharge.

The Created Wetland AA encompassed 4.45 acres within the excavated footprint of the constructed wetland cells and an additional 1.0 acres of unanticipated wetland developed outside of the constructed cells. This AA rated as Category II wetlands with 76 percent of the possible functional points and a total of 41.42 functional units in 2014. Ratings were high for general wildlife habitat, short and long term surface water storage, sediment/nutrient/toxicant removal, sediment/shoreline stabilization, and groundwater discharge and recharge.

3.7. Photo Documentation

Photographs taken of photo points one through five (PP1 through PP5, Figure 2, Appendix A) are shown on pages C-1 to C-4 of Appendix C. Transect end points are shown on pages C-5 and C-6 and photos of data points M-1 through M-4 are included on page C-7.

3.8. Maintenance Needs

Infestations of Canadian thistle and houndstongue (gypsy-flower), both Priority 2B noxious weeds, were identified near the west entrance to the site, on the east side of the Murphy Creek riparian corridor near the east property boundary, along the southern property boundary and in wetland communities Type – 9 and Type – 15 (Figure 3, Appendix A). Infestations were less than 0.1 acre in extent and less than 1 percent of the total cover of the infestation, with the exception of Type – 9 and Type- 15, which was 0.1 to 1 acre in size and total infestation cover was high (26-100 percent). Isolated plants of houndstongue and/or Canadian thistle were recorded within communities 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, and 17. The MDT has an ongoing weed management program for their mitigation sites that includes an annual assessment of weed conditions and subsequent implementation of weed control measures. Two wood duck boxes, one floating nest, and six bluebird

boxes were installed at the site between 2010 and 2014. All of the nest structures were in excellent condition and did not require maintenance. Inspections of all boxes in 2014 indicated that all were being used by birds. No water control structures were installed on the property.

3.9. Current Credit Summary

Table 9 presents the summary of wetland credits estimated for the Murphy Ox Yoke wetland mitigation site during the five-year monitoring period from 2010 to 2014. Credit ratios were taken from the *Wetland Compensatory Mitigation Ratios, Montana Regulatory Program* (USACE 2005) and the approved wetland mitigation plan. The total area of projected wetland within the constructed cells was estimated at 4.10 acres in 2008. The actual wetland area mapped within the footprint of the cells in 2014 was measured at 4.45 acres. The ditch in the northwest corner of the site was plugged during construction, raising groundwater elevations in the adjacent palustrine wetland. This additional 1-acre of wetland development outside the excavated cells was not anticipated or accounted for in the USACE approved crediting strategy. A request for acknowledgement and approval of this additional one credit acre should be made to the USACE. Preservation of 2.24 acres of the existing scrub/shrub and emergent wetlands within the creek corridor west of the canal accounted for 0.56 credit acres at a 4:1 impact to credit ratio. This area was increased in size in 2014 based on GIS calculations of this pre-existing wetland area. The 2.90 acre upland buffer provided 0.58 credit acres at a 5:1 ratio. The 2014 estimated credits yielded 7.92 credit acres and has exceeded the 2008 credit target of 6.5 acres.

Table 10 provides a summary of the Murphy Ox Yoke mitigation site performance standards and success criteria. Based on these success criteria, the site has achieved all but one of the approved performance standards. All wetlands delineated within the site in 2014 have successfully met the three wetland criteria. Hydric soils have formed within the excavated basins. All soils disturbed during the initial construction are sufficiently stable with no signs of active erosion and support vegetation cover. The hydrophytic vegetation in wetland communities across the site exhibited an overall cover exceeding 80 percent. Woody shrubs planted around the periphery of Cells 1 and 2, however, did not achieve the success criteria of at least 50 percent survival after five years. It should be noted that natural willow recruitment and expansion of the preserved shrub communities within the site has been observed. The site has been fenced and grazing excluded from the site. The drain ditch has been plugged and resulted in increased groundwater tables. The weed cover in the wetlands and upland buffer does not currently exceed 5 percent. The site is protected in a conservation easement. As this is the final year of monitoring, a formal request of concurrence from regulators should be submitted for the site to be released from further monitoring requirements and a notification that the permit obligations have been completed.

Table 9. Summary of Estimated Wetland Credits from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site.

PROPOSED FEATURE	COMPENSATORY MITIGATION TYPE	USACE CREDIT RATIO	2008 PROPOSED CREDIT ACRES	2008 USACE CREDIT TARGET	2010 DELINEATED ACRES	2010 ESTIMATED CREDITS	2011 DELINEATED ACRES	2011 ESTIMATED CREDITS
Creation of palustrine emergent and scrub/shrub wetlands through shallow excavation of groundwater in Cell 1.	Creation	1:1	2.70	2.70	1.59	1.59	2.92	2.92
Creation of palustrine emergent and scrub/shrub wetlands through shallow excavation of groundwater in Cell 2.	Creation	1:1	1.40	1.40	0.56	0.56	1.17	1.17
Rehabilitation of wetlands in NW corner of site west of the Park Branch Canal.	Restoration (Rehabilitation)	1.5:1	2.00	1.33	2.00	1.33	2.00	1.33
Preservation of existing scrub/shrub and emergent wetlands not included in restoration/rehabilitation.	Preservation	4:1	1.89	0.47	1.89	0.47	1.89	0.47
Creation of wetlands outside of excavated cells and existing restoration and preservation areas	Creation	1:1	---	---	*ND	*ND	1.31	1.31
Upland buffer included in the conservation easement area to protect aquatic resources within project limits.	Upland Buffer	5:1	3.00	0.60	3.00	0.60	3.00	0.60
Totals			10.99	6.50	9.04	4.56	12.29	7.81

*Area not differentiated in 2010



Table 9 (Continued). Summary of Estimated Wetland Credits from 2010 to 2014 at the Murphy Ox Yoke Wetland Mitigation Site

PROPOSED FEATURE	COMPENSATORY MITIGATION TYPE	USACE CREDIT RATIO	2012 DELINEATED ACRES	2012 ESTIMATED CREDITS	2013 DELINEATED ACRES	2013 ESTIMATED CREDITS	2014 DELINEATED ACRES	2014 ESTIMATED CREDITS
Creation of palustrine emergent and scrub/shrub wetlands through shallow excavation of groundwater in Cell 1.	Creation	1:1	2.92	2.92	2.92	2.92	2.95	2.95
Creation of palustrine emergent and scrub/shrub wetlands through shallow excavation of groundwater in Cell 2.	Creation	1:1	1.17	1.17	1.44	1.44	1.50	1.50
Rehabilitation of wetlands in NW corner of site west of the Park Branch Canal.	Restoration (Rehabilitation)	1.5:1	2.00	1.33	2.00	1.33	2.00	1.33
Preservation of existing scrub/shrub and emergent wetlands not included in restoration/rehabilitation.	Preservation	4:1	1.89	0.47	1.89	0.47	2.24	0.56
Creation of wetlands outside of excavated cells and existing restoration and preservation areas	Creation	1:1	1.31	1.31	1.35	1.35	1.00	1.00
Upland buffer included in the conservation easement area to protect aquatic resources within project limits.	Upland Buffer	5:1	3.30	0.66	2.99	0.60	2.90	0.58
Totals			12.59	7.87	12.59	8.11	12.59	7.92



Table 10. Summary of performance standards.

Performance Standards	Success Criteria	Criteria Achieved Y/N	Discussion
Wetland Hydrology	Achieved where wetland hydrology is present as specified in the technical guidelines in the 1987 Manual.	Y	Areas identified as wetland habitat within the mitigation site exhibit soil saturation for a minimum 12.5 percent of growing season.
Hydric Soil	Hydric soil conditions present or appear to be forming.	Y	Hydric soil characteristics, including redoximorphic concentrations and redox dark surface, have developed throughout a majority of the constructed wetlands.
	Soil is sufficiently stable to prevent erosion.	Y	Disturbed soil is stable and does not exhibit signs of erosion.
	Soil is able to support plant cover.	Y	Plant cover has develop across disturbed soils.
Hydrophytic Vegetation	Achieved when wetlands delineated as hydrophytic utilizing technical guidelines.	Y	Areas identified as wetland habitat within the mitigation site support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation (OBL, FACW, and FAC).
	Hydrophytic vegetation success will include achieving a minimal overall vegetation cover of 80 percent in created wetland areas 5 years following site construction.	Y	Created wetland areas exhibited greater than 80 percent vegetation cover in 2014, five years post-construction.
<i>Woody Plants</i>	Successful creation of scrub/shrub wetland will be achieved when 550 (50 percent of total plantings) or more live wetland shrubs are present within and around the periphery of Cells 1 & 2 five years following site construction.	N	Approximatley 150 live woody plantings were observed within and around the periphery of Cells 1 & 2 in 2014.
<i>Restoration/ Rehabilitation</i>	Success will be achieved when the site is fenced, grazing is removed from existing wetlands, and the drain ditch is plugged.	Y	The site has been fenced, grazing removed from the entite conservation easement area, and the drain ditch has been plugged.
Upland Buffer	Success will be achieved when the site is fenced.	Y	Site has been fenced.
	Noxious weeds do not exceed 5 percent cover within the buffer.	Y	Noxious weeds do not exceed 5 percent cover within the upland buffer.
Site Protection	Success will be achieved when MDT and the Murphy's have successfully agreed upon, signed, and filed a perpetual conservation easement for the project area.	Y	A conservation easement for the mitigation area has been successfully executed.

Goals of this project were stated in Section 1.0 of this report and included creating wetland habitat by excavating two 4.1 acres cells; restoring 2.0 acres of existing, degraded wetlands; creating a scrub-shrub component within and around the periphery of the created wetlands; and enhance and project uplands and existing (preservation) wetlands. The goal to create 4.1 acres of wetlands and improving wildlife habitat, nutrient/toxicant removal functions, surface water storage, and production export/food chain support on the site has been accomplished. Created wetlands exceed the 4.1-acre target and have improved the listed functions. Wetland hydrology to the 2.0-acre restoration area was significantly improved by plugging a drainage ditch. Spoil piles were removed from this area and returned to native elevation. An on-going weed-control program has been implemented for the site and is administered by MDT. Fencing has been installed around the periphery of the site and livestock grazing has been removed. Long-term site protection has been secured through the execution of a conservation easement. Although numerous woody plants were installed around the constructed wetlands, survival has not been deemed successful. Although several of the willow stakes have survived, these stakes have not proliferated or developed into scrub-shrub habitat component. The pre-existing willows have increased in density and support woody habitat. The uplands and preservation wetland area has been enhanced through the implementation of the aforementioned mechanisms (weed control, conservation easement, etc).

4. REFERENCES

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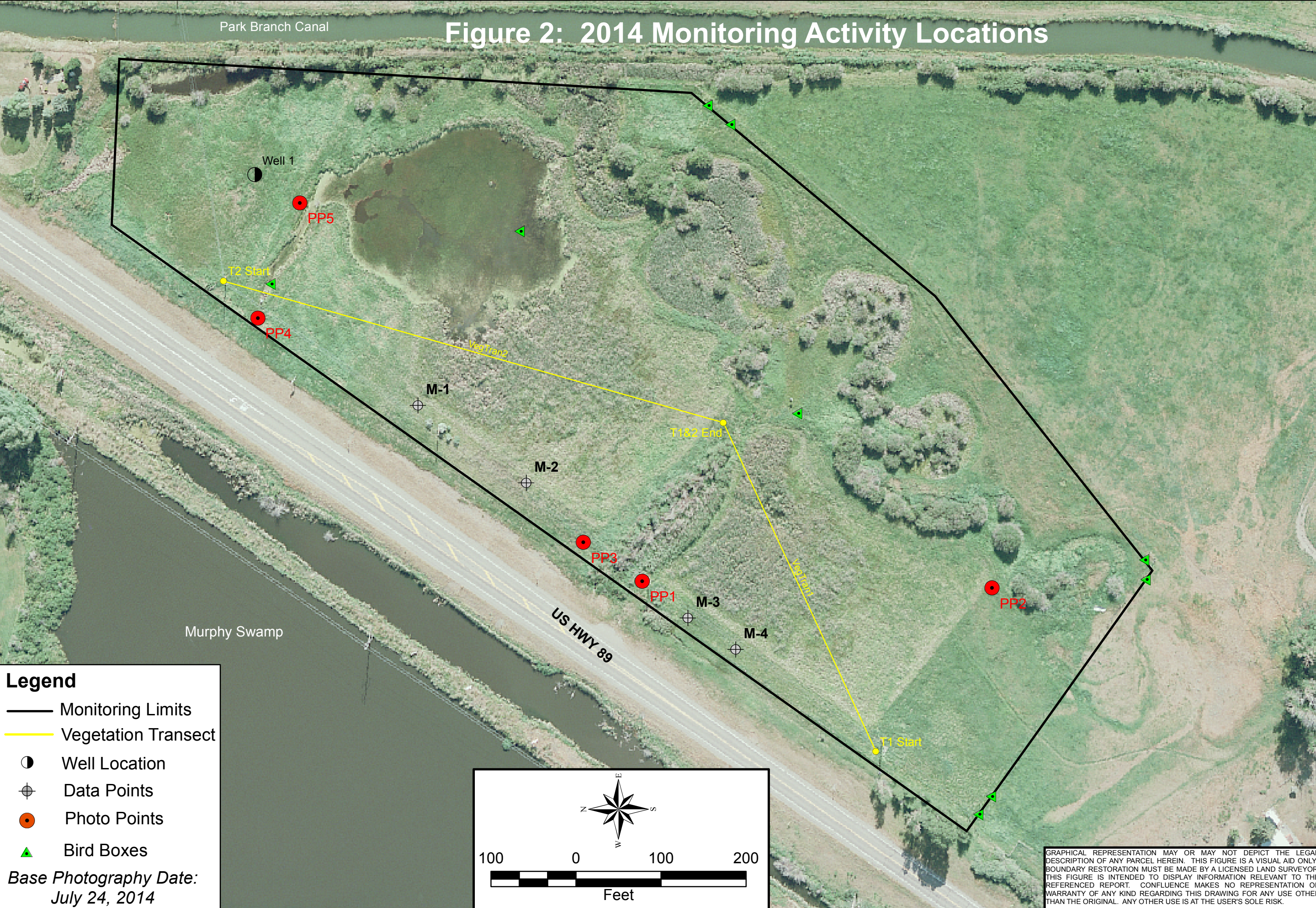
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Appendix A

Project Area Maps – Figure 2 & Figure 3

MDT Wetland Mitigation Monitoring
Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch
Park County, Montana

Figure 2: 2014 Monitoring Activity Locations



Legend

- Monitoring Limits
- Vegetation Transect
- Well Location
- ⊕ Data Points
- Photo Points
- ▲ Bird Boxes

*Base Photography Date:
July 24, 2014*

Feet

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION MAY OR MAY NOT DEPICT THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF ANY PARCEL HEREIN. THIS FIGURE IS A VISUAL AID ONLY; BOUNDARY RESTORATION MUST BE MADE BY A LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR. THIS FIGURE IS INTENDED TO DISPLAY INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE REFERENCED REPORT. CONFLUENCE MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND REGARDING THIS DRAWING FOR ANY USE OTHER THAN THE ORIGINAL. ANY OTHER USE IS AT THE USER'S SOLE RISK.

LOCATION: Park Co., MT PROJECT NO: STPX-BR 34(16) FILE: Murphy/Monitor2014.mxd	Project Name Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch Site Drawing Title Wetland Mitigation Site
APPROVED LU	2014 Monitoring Activity Locations
CHECKED BV	SCALE: Noted
DRAWN BCS	Drawn: October 10, 2014 PROJ MGR: B Sandefur
	Figure 2
REV -	

Figure 3: 2014 Mapped Site Features

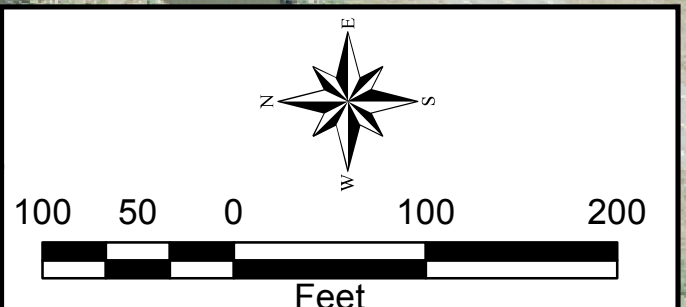
- ### Vegetation Community Types
- ① Schedonorus pratensis/Elymus repens
 - ④ Salix exigua/Salix lasiandra
 - ⑤ Elymus repens/Pascopyrum smithii
 - ⑦ Alopecurus pratensis/Carex spp.
 - ⑨ Carex nebrascensis/Carex utriculata
 - ⑩ Salix exigua/Salix drummondiana
 - ⑪ Bromus inermis/Elymus repens
 - ⑫ Typha latifolia
 - ⑬ Glyceria grandis/Schedonorus pratensis
 - ⑭ Typha latifolia/Glyceria grandis
 - ⑮ Deschampsia caespitosa
 - ⑯ Aquatic macrophytes
 - ⑰ Carex nebrascensis/Salix exigua

- ### Noxious Weeds
- *Cirsium arvense*
 - *Cynoglossum officinale*
- ### Infestation Size
- X = <0.1 acre
 - ▲ = 0.1 to 1 acre
 - = 1 to 5 acre
- ### Cover Class
- T = Trace (<1% cover)
 - L = Low (1-5% cover)
 - M = Moderate (6-25% cover)
 - H = High (26-100% cover)

- ## Legend
- Monitoring Limits ———
 - Wetland Limits ———
 - Vegetation Communities ———
- Base Photography Date:*
July 24, 2014

Acreages

Project Area	12.59 acres
Total Wetlands	9.69 acres
Existing Wetlands	3.89 acres
Net Wetlands	5.80 acres
Uplands	2.90 acres



LOCATION: Park Co., MT	PROJECT NO: STPX-BR 34(16)	FILE: Murphy/Veg2014.mxd
Project Name: Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch Wetland Mitigation Site		
Drawing Title: 2014 Mapped Site Features		
DRAWN: BCS	CHECKED: BV	APPROVED: LU
SCALE: Noted		
Drawn: October 10, 2014		
PROJ MGR: B Sandefur		
Figure 3		
REV -		

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION MAY OR MAY NOT DEPICT THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF ANY PARCEL HEREIN. THIS FIGURE IS A VISUAL AID ONLY; BOUNDARY RESTORATION MUST BE MADE BY A LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR. THIS FIGURE IS INTENDED TO DISPLAY INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE REFERENCED REPORT. CONFLUENCE MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY OF ANY KIND REGARDING THIS DRAWING FOR ANY USE OTHER THAN THE ORIGINAL. ANY OTHER USE IS AT THE USER'S SOLE RISK.

Appendix B

2014 MDT Wetland Mitigation Site Monitoring Form
2014 USACE Wetland Determination Data Forms
2014 MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Forms

MDT Wetland Mitigation Monitoring
Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch
Park County, Montana

MDT WETLAND MITIGATION SITE MONITORING FORM

Project Site: Murphy Ox Yoke Assessment Date/Time 7/18/2014

Person(s) conducting the assessment: B Schultz

Weather: Sunny, warm, smokey Location: S of Murphy Lane in Emigrant, MT

MDT District: Butte Milepost: _____

Legal Description: T 5S R 8E Section(s) 28 & 33

Initial Evaluation Date: 7/30/2010 Monitoring Year: 5 #Visits in Year: 1

Size of Evaluation Area: 12.59 (acres)

Land use surrounding wetland:

Agricultural, Hwy 89 on west boundary.

HYDROLOGY

Surface Water Source: GW from Park Branch & Murphy Swamp; Murphy Creek flows thru site.

Inundation: Average Depth: 0.5 (ft) Range of Depths: 0-2.5 (ft)

Percent of assessment area under inundation: 25 %

Depth at emergent vegetation-open water boundary: 1.5 (ft)

If assessment area is not inundated then are the soils saturated within 12 inches of surface: Yes

Other evidence of hydrology on the site (ex. – drift lines, erosion, stained vegetation, etc):

Inundation on aerial, surface soil cracks, high water table, saturation, drainage patterns, and FAC-neutral test.

Groundwater Monitoring Wells

Record depth of water surface below ground surface, in feet.

Well ID	Water Surface Depth (ft)
Well 1	0.5

Additional Activities Checklist:

- Map emergent vegetation-open water boundary on aerial photograph.
- Observe extent of surface water during each site visit and look for evidence of past surface water elevations (drift lines, erosion, vegetation staining, etc.)
- Use GPS to survey groundwater monitoring well locations, if present.

Hydrology Notes:

The constructed cells were inundated during the site visit.

VEGETATION COMMUNITIES

Site Murphy Ox Yoke

(Cover Class Codes 0 = < 1%, 1 = 1-5%, 2 = 6-10%, 3 = 11-20%, 4 = 21-50% , 5 = >50%)

Community # 1 **Community Type:** Schedonorus pratensis / Elymus repens **Acres** 1.36

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Achillea millefolium	1	Alopecurus pratensis	2
Bromus inermis	3	Chenopodium album	1
Cirsium arvense	1	Cynoglossum officinale	0
Dactylis glomerata	2	Elymus cinereus	1
Elymus repens	2	Equisetum arvense	1
Linum lewisii	0	Medicago sativa	0
Pascopyrum smithii	1	Phleum pratense	1
Poa pratensis	1	Populus angustifolia	1
Salix exigua	1	Schedonorus pratensis	4
Sisymbrium altissimum	1	Sonchus arvensis	0
Taraxacum officinale	1	Tragopogon dubius	0
Trifolium pratense	0	Trifolium repens	2

Comments:

Community # 4 **Community Type:** Salix exigua / Salix lasiandra **Acres** 0.28

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Cirsium arvense	0	Cornus alba	2
Cynoglossum officinale	0	Glyceria grandis	2
Glycyrrhiza lepidota	2	Polygonum persicaria	0
Ribes lacustre	2	Rosa woodsii	2
Salix exigua	5	Salix lasiandra	3
Solanum dulcamara	2	Trifolium pratense	0
Trifolium repens	0	Typha latifolia	1
Vitis riparia	1		

Comments:

Community # 5 **Community Type:** Elymus repens / Pascopyrum smithii **Acres** 0.39

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	1	Asclepias sp.	0
Bare Ground	1	Bromus inermis	2
Carex utriculata	1	Chenopodium album	0
Cicuta douglasii	1	Cirsium arvense	0
Cynoglossum officinale	0	Elymus repens	4
Equisetum arvense	1	Equisetum hyemale	1
Glycyrrhiza lepidota	0	Hordeum jubatum	0
Lactuca serriola	0	Medicago sativa	1
Melilotus officinalis	2	Pascopyrum smithii	3
Phleum pratense	1	Plantago major	0
Schedonorus pratensis	3	Sonchus arvensis	1
Taraxacum officinale	1		

Comments:

Community # 7 **Community Type:** Alopecurus pratensis / Carex spp. **Acres** 2.04

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	5	Asclepias sp.	0
Carex aquatilis	0	Carex nebrascensis	4
Carex utriculata	3	Chenopodium album	0
Cirsium arvense	0	Equisetum arvense	1
Glycyrrhiza lepidota	1	Helianthus annuus	1
Juncus balticus	3	Medicago sativa	1
Melilotus albus	0	Mentha arvensis	1
Mimulus glabratus	0	Poa palustris	0
Poa pratensis	1	Rosa woodsii	1
Salix drummondiana	0	Salix exigua	1
Schedonorus pratensis	1	Solidago canadensis	1
Sonchus arvensis	0	Taraxacum officinale	0
Trifolium pratense	0	Trifolium repens	0
Triglochin maritima	0		

Comments:

Community # 9 **Community Type:** Carex nebrascensis / Carex utriculata **Acres** 0.23

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Agrostis gigantea	1	Alopecurus pratensis	2
Carex nebrascensis	4	Carex utriculata	3
Cirsium arvense	3	Cynoglossum officinale	0
Glyceria grandis	1	Helianthus nuttallii	1
Mentha arvensis	1	Typha latifolia	1

Comments:

Community # 10 **Community Type:** Salix exigua / Salix drummondiana **Acres** 2.16

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Agrostis gigantea	1	Alopecurus pratensis	2
Bromus inermis	1	Carex nebrascensis	1
Carex utriculata	2	Cirsium arvense	0
Glyceria grandis	1	Marrubium vulgare	1
Phalaris arundinacea	3	Poa palustris	1
Ribes lacustre	1	Rosa woodsii	1
Salix bebbiana	2	Salix drummondiana	3
Salix exigua	3	Salix lasiandra	2
Salix lemmonii	2	Salix planifolia	2
Scirpus microcarpus	1	Thlaspi arvense	0
Typha latifolia	2		

Comments:

Community # 11 **Community Type:** Bromus inermis / Elymus repens **Acres** 1.15

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Bromus inermis	4	Cirsium arvense	1
Cynoglossum officinale	0	Elymus cinereus	2
Elymus repens	3	Lactuca serriola	0
Rosa woodsii	1	Schedonorus pratensis	3
Sisymbrium altissimum	1	Solidago canadensis	1
Sonchus arvensis	0	Taraxacum officinale	1
Thlaspi arvense	1		

Comments:

Community # 12 Community Type: Typha latifolia /

Acres 0.52

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Carex nebrascensis	1	Carex utriculata	3
Cirsium arvense	1	Cynoglossum officinale	0
Deschampsia cespitosa	0	Eleocharis palustris	1
Juncus balticus	2	Juncus effusus	1
Salix bebbiana	0	Typha latifolia	5

Comments:

Community # 13 Community Type: Glyceria grandis / Schedonorus pratensis

Acres 0.53

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus arundinaceus	1	Alopecurus pratensis	2
Bare Ground	1	Bromus inermis	2
Carex nebrascensis	1	Carex utriculata	2
Dactylis glomerata	0	Deschampsia caespitosa	1
Eleocharis palustris	2	Equisetum arvense	0
Glyceria grandis	4	Juncus balticus	2
Juncus compressus	1	Mentha arvensis	1
Pascopyrum smithii	0	Phalaris arundinacea	0
Phleum pratense	1	Poa palustris	1
Polypogon monspeliensis	1	Schedonorus pratensis	2
Sonchus arvensis	2	Trifolium pratense	0
Trifolium repens	1	Typha latifolia	2

Comments:

Community # 14 Community Type: Typha latifolia / Glyceria grandis

Acres 2.11

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Algae, green	1	Alopecurus pratensis	0
Carex aquatilis	0	Carex nebrascensis	1
Carex utriculata	2	Cirsium arvense	0
Deschampsia caespitosa	0	Eleocharis palustris	3
Epilobium ciliatum	1	Equisetum arvense	1
Equisetum hyemale	1	Glyceria grandis	3
Glycyrrhiza lepidota	1	Juncus balticus	2
Juncus compressus	0	Juncus effusus	0
Lemna minor	1	Melilotus albus	1
Melilotus officinalis	1	Open Water	2
Poa palustris	0	Poa pratensis	0
Polypogon monspeliensis	1	Salix drummondiana	0
Schedonorus pratensis	1	Schoenoplectus acutus	1
Scirpus microcarpus	1	Trifolium repens	1
Typha latifolia	5		

Comments:

Community # 15 Community Type: Deschampsia caespitosa /

Acres 0.59

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	4	Bare Ground	1
Carex sp.	1	Carex utriculata	1
Chenopodium album	0	Cirsium arvense	1
Dactylis glomerata	1	Deschampsia caespitosa	3
Eleocharis palustris	1	Elymus repens	1
Equisetum arvense	1	Equisetum hyemale	1
Glyceria grandis	1	Glycyrrhiza lepidota	3
Helianthus annuus	1	Hordeum jubatum	0
Juncus balticus	3	Pascopyrum smithii	2
Poa pratensis	0	Schedonorus pratensis	3
Sonchus arvensis	1	Typha latifolia	0

Comments:

Community # 16 Community Type: Aquatic macrophytes /

Acres 1.17

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Algae, green	3	Algae, red	4
Aquatic macrophytes	1	Lemna minor	2
Open Water	5	Ruppia maritima	2
Typha angustifolia	0		

Comments:

Community # 17 **Community Type:** Carex nebrascensis / Salix exigua

Acres 0.06

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Carex nebrascensis	5	Carex sp.	3
Cirsium arvense	0	Cynoglossum officinale	0
Elymus repens	3	Pascopyrum smithii	2
Salix exigua	4	Schoenoplectus acutus	0
Taraxacum officinale	1		

Comments:

Total Vegetation Community Acreage

12.59

(Note: some area within the project bounds may be open water or other non-vegetative ground cover.)

VEGETATION TRANSECTS

Site: Murphy Ox Yoke Date: 7/18/2014

Transect Number: 1 Compass Direction from Start: 40

Interval Data:

Ending Station 45 **Community Type:** Schedonorus pratensis / Elymus repens

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Cirsium arvense	0	Elymus repens	4
Pascopyrum smithii	2	Phleum pratense	1
Poa pratensis	3	Schedonorus pratensis	4
Sonchus arvensis	2	Taraxacum officinale	1
Trifolium pratense	0	Trifolium repens	1

Ending Station 104 **Community Type:** Glyceria grandis / Schedonorus pratensis

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Eleocharis palustris	2	Glyceria grandis	3
Juncus balticus	3	Poa palustris	1
Schedonorus pratensis	4	Sonchus arvensis	2
Trifolium repens	2	Typha latifolia	2

Ending Station 440 **Community Type:** Typha latifolia / Glyceria grandis

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	3	Carex nebrascensis	2
Carex utriculata	2	Cirsium arvense	0
Eleocharis palustris	3	Equisetum hyemale	0
Glyceria grandis	3	Juncus balticus	3
Juncus compressus	2	Juncus effusus	0
Open Water	3	Poa palustris	1
Schedonorus pratensis	0	Schoenoplectus acutus	0
Scirpus microcarpus	0	Trifolium repens	1
Typha latifolia	5		

Ending Station 450 **Community Type:** Elymus repens / Pascopyrum smithii

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	2	Bromus inermis	4
Cirsium arvense	0	Elymus repens	2
Glycyrrhiza lepidota	2	Pascopyrum smithii	2
Sonchus arvensis	1		

Transect Notes:

Transect Number: 2

Compass Direction from Start: 200

Interval Data:

Ending Station 50 **Community Type:** Alopecurus pratensis / Carex spp.

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	5	Carex aquatilis	1
Carex utriculata	3	Juncus balticus	2
Mentha arvensis	1	Poa palustris	1

Ending Station 70 **Community Type:** Aquatic macrophytes /

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Algae, green	4	Aquatic macrophytes	3
Lemna minor	4	Open Water	5
Typha angustifolia	1		

Ending Station 235 **Community Type:** Alopecurus pratensis / Carex spp.

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Alopecurus pratensis	5	Carex utriculata	2
Cirsium arvense	0	Glycyrrhiza lepidota	1
Helianthus annuus	1	Juncus balticus	2
Melilotus albus	0	Mentha arvensis	1
Salix drummondiana	1	Schedonorus pratensis	1
Sonchus arvensis	1	Trifolium pratense	1
Trifolium repens	1	Triglochin maritima	0

Ending Station 250 **Community Type:** Aquatic macrophytes /

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Algae, green	4	Aquatic macrophytes	3
Lemna minor	3	Open Water	5

Ending Station 515 **Community Type:** Typha latifolia / Glyceria grandis

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Carex aquatilis	1	Carex nebrascensis	1
Eleocharis palustris	1	Glyceria grandis	2
Juncus balticus	2	Juncus compressus	0
Juncus effusus	1	Melilotus officinalis	0
Trifolium repens	1	Typha latifolia	5

Ending Station 590 **Community Type:** Deschampsia cespitosa /

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Bare Ground	3	Chenopodium album	1
Cirsium arvense	0	Deschampsia caespitosa	2
Eleocharis palustris	3	Glyceria grandis	2
Pascopyrum smithii	1	Poa pratensis	1
Sonchus arvensis	1	Typha latifolia	2

Ending Station 610 **Community Type:** Elymus repens / Pascopyrum smithii

Species	Cover class	Species	Cover class
Bromus inermis	4	Cirsium arvense	1
Cynoglossum officinale	0	Elymus repens	4
Pascopyrum smithii	3	Taraxacum officinale	1

Transect Notes:

PLANTED WOODY VEGETATION SURVIVAL

Murphy Ox Yoke

Planting Type	#Planted	#Alive	Notes
Populus trichocarpa	20	0	1-gal
Salix drummondiana	20	20	1-gal
Salix exigua	20	20	1-gal
Salix geyeriana	30	20	1-gal
Salix lutea	30	20	1-gal
Salix spp.	1000	50	cuttings installed in 2010
Salix spp.	250	25	250 additional cuttings installed in 2011

Comments

Numerous willow cuttings were installed along the boundary of both excavated cells. Best survival rate observed on larger diameter, well-pruned cuttings. Lowest survival rate on smaller cuttings without top trimmed. Containerized cottonwoods exhibited a high mortality rate. Remaining plantings appeared to be thriving during 2014 site visit. Natural willow recruitment and expansion of the preserved shrub communities within the site has been observed.

WILDLIFE

Birds

Were man-made nesting structures installed? Yes

If yes, type of structure: Bluebird, Wood Duck

How many? 9

Are the nesting structures being used? Yes

Do the nesting structures need repairs? No

Nesting Structure Comments:

All nesting structures appeared to be in good repair.

Species	#Observed	Behavior	Habitat
Gray Catbird	1	L	SS, WM
Mallard	20	F, FO, L	OW
Northern Flicker	1	FO	SS
Red-tailed Hawk	2	F, FO	UP
Red-winged Blackbird	20	FO, L	MA, WM
Song Sparrow	5	FO	SS, WM
Tree Swallow	11	FO	OW, SS
Yellow-headed Blackbird	1	F, L	SS, WM

Bird Comments

BEHAVIOR CODES

BP = One of a breeding pair **BD** = Breeding display **F** = Foraging **FO** = Flyover **L** = Loafing **N** = Nesting

HABITAT CODES

AB = Aquatic bed **SS** = Scrub/Shrub **FO** = Forested **UP** = Upland buffer **I** = Island

WM = Wet meadow **MA** = Marsh **US** = Unconsolidated shore **MF** = Mud Flat **OW** = Open Water

Mammals and Herptiles

Species	# Observed Tracks	Scat	Burrows	Comments
Deer Sp.		Yes	No	No

Wildlife Comments:

PHOTOGRAPHS

Take photographs of the following permanent reference points listed in the check list below. Record the direction of the photograph using a compass. When at the site for the first time, establish a permanent reference point by setting a ½ inch rebar or fencepost extending 2-3 feet above ground. Survey the location with a resource grade GPS and mark the location on the aerial photograph.

Photograph Checklist:

- One photograph for each of the four cardinal directions surrounding the wetland.
- At least one photograph showing upland use surrounding the wetland. If more than one upland exists then take additional photographs.
- At least one photograph showing the buffer surrounding the wetland.
- One photograph from each end of the vegetation transect, showing the transect.

Photo #	Latitude	Longitude	Bearing	Description
440-445	45.364815	-110.735794	350	PP-2
449, 477	45.365208	-110.736603	40	T1, start
454	45.365665	-110.735046	220	T1, end
456-461	45.366199	-110.735619	50	PP-3
462	45.367241	-110.73436	200	T2, start
463	45.36718	-110.734581	140	PP-4 ditch inlet
464	45.367077	-110.734108	180	PP-5
469	45.365654	-110.735252	20	T2, end
471-476	45.365997	-110.735809	170	PP-1
478	45.215985	-110.440631	0	M-1
481	45.215865	-110.440773	0	M-2
485	45.21568	-110.440975	0	M-3
486	45.215575	-110.441096	0	M-4

Comments:

ADDITIONAL ITEMS CHECKLIST

Hydrology

- Map emergent vegetation/open water boundary on aerial photos.
- Observe extent of surface water. Look for evidence of past surface water elevations (e.g. drift lines, vegetation staining, erosion, etc).

Photos

- One photo from the wetland toward each of the four cardinal directions
- One photo showing upland use surrounding the wetland.
- One photo showing the buffer around the wetland
- One photo from each end of each vegetation transect, toward the transect

Vegetation

- Map vegetation community boundaries
- Complete Vegetation Transects

Soils

- Assess soils

Wetland Delineations

- Delineate wetlands according to applicable USACE protocol (1987 form or Supplement)
- Delineate wetland – upland boundary onto aerial photograph.

Wetland Delineation Comments

Functional Assessments

- Complete and attach full MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Method field forms.

Functional Assessment Comments:

Maintenance

Were man-made nesting structure installed at this site? Yes

If yes, do they need to be repaired? No

If yes, describe the problems below and indicate if any actions were taken to remedy the problems

Were man-made structures built or installed to impound water or control water flow into or out of the wetland? No

If yes, are the structures in need of repair?

If yes, describe the problems below.

SOIL

Sampling Point: M-1

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0-4	10YR	3/1	100				Silt Loam	
4-14	7.5Y	2.5/1	95	10YR	4/2	5	Silt Loam	

¹Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. ²Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils³:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

³Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: _____
Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Water Table Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes No Depth (inches): _____

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Murphy Ox Yoke City/County: Park Co. Sampling Date: 7/18/2014
 Applicant/Owner: MDT State: Montana Sampling Point: M-2
 Investigator(s): B Schultz Section, Township, Range: S 33 T 5S R 8E
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Lowland Local relief (concave, convex, none): flat Slope (%): 0
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: _____ Long: _____ Datum: WGS84
 Soil Map Unit Name: Vendome-Meadowcreek complex NWI classification: _____

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
---	---

Remarks:

VEGETATION - Use scientific names of plant

<p>Tree Stratum Plot size (30 Foot Radius) Absolute % Cover: Dominant Species? Indicator Status</p> <p>Sapling/Shrub Stratum Plot size (15 Foot Radius)</p> <p>Herbaceous Stratum Plot size (5 Foot Radius)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Equisetum hyemale</td><td align="center">5</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FACW</td></tr> <tr><td>Glycyrrhiza lepidota</td><td align="center">15</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FAC</td></tr> <tr><td>Hordeum jubatum</td><td align="center">5</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FAC</td></tr> <tr><td>Schedonorus pratensis</td><td align="center">60</td><td align="center"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>FACU</td></tr> <tr><td>Sonchus arvensis</td><td align="center">15</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FACU</td></tr> </table> <p>Woody Vine Stratum Plot size (30 Foot Radius)</p> <p>Percent Bare Ground 0</p>	Equisetum hyemale	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACW	Glycyrrhiza lepidota	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAC	Hordeum jubatum	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAC	Schedonorus pratensis	60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FACU	Sonchus arvensis	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACU	<p>Dominance Test worksheet</p> Number of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC: <input type="text" value="0"/> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <input type="text" value="1"/> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <input type="text" value="0"/> % (A/B)
Equisetum hyemale	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACW																		
Glycyrrhiza lepidota	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAC																		
Hordeum jubatum	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAC																		
Schedonorus pratensis	60	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FACU																		
Sonchus arvensis	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACU																		
<p>Prevalence Index worksheet</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total % Cover of:</th> <th>Multiply by:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>OBL species 0 X 1</td><td align="center"><input type="text" value="0"/></td></tr> <tr><td>FACW species 5 X 2</td><td align="center"><input type="text" value="10"/></td></tr> <tr><td>FAC species 20 X 3</td><td align="center"><input type="text" value="60"/></td></tr> <tr><td>FACU species 75 X 4</td><td align="center"><input type="text" value="300"/></td></tr> <tr><td>UPL species 0 X 5</td><td align="center"><input type="text" value="0"/></td></tr> <tr><td>Column Totals <input type="text" value="100"/> (A)</td><td align="center"><input type="text" value="370"/> (B)</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.7</p>		Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species 0 X 1	<input type="text" value="0"/>	FACW species 5 X 2	<input type="text" value="10"/>	FAC species 20 X 3	<input type="text" value="60"/>	FACU species 75 X 4	<input type="text" value="300"/>	UPL species 0 X 5	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Column Totals <input type="text" value="100"/> (A)	<input type="text" value="370"/> (B)						
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Column Totals <input type="text" value="100"/> (A)	<input type="text" value="370"/> (B)																				
<p>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Dominance Test is >50% <input type="checkbox"/> 3 - Prevalence Index is <= 3.0 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 - Morphological Adaptations (Provide supporting data in remarks or on separate sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 - Wetland Non-Vascular Plants <input type="checkbox"/> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation (Explain) <p>Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic for #3, 4, 5.</p>																					
<p>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>																					

Remarks:

SOIL

Sampling Point: M-2

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0-4	10YR	4/3	100				Silt Loam	friable. Soil not hydric.
4-12	10YR	3/1	100				Silt Loam	

¹Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. ²Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils³:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

³Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: _____
Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)

- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Drainage Patterns (B10)
- Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- Geomorphic Position (D2)
- Shallow Aquitard (D3)
- FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Water Table Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes No Depth (inches): _____

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Murphy Ox Yoke City/County: Park Co. Sampling Date: 7/18/2014
 Applicant/Owner: MDT State: Montana Sampling Point: M-3
 Investigator(s): B Schultz Section, Township, Range: S 33 T 5S R 8E
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Lowland Local relief (concave, convex, none): flat Slope (%): 0
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: _____ Long: _____ Datum: WGS84
 Soil Map Unit Name: Vendome-Meadowcreek complex NWI classification: PEM

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
---	---

Remarks:

VEGETATION - Use scientific names of plant

<p>Tree Stratum Plot size (30 Foot Radius) Absolute % Cover: Dominant Species? Indicator Status</p> <p>Sapling/Shrub Stratum Plot size (15 Foot Radius)</p> <p>Herbaceous Stratum Plot size (5 Foot Radius)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:40%;">Carex nebrascensis</td> <td style="width:10%;">50</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align:center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width:40%;">OBL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Juncus balticus</td> <td>40</td> <td style="text-align:center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>FACW</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pascopyrum smithii</td> <td>10</td> <td style="text-align:center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>FACU</td> </tr> </table> <p>Woody Vine Stratum Plot size (30 Foot Radius)</p> <p>Percent Bare Ground 0</p>	Carex nebrascensis	50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OBL	Juncus balticus	40	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FACW	Pascopyrum smithii	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACU	<p>Dominance Test worksheet</p> Number of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC: <input type="text" value="2"/> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <input type="text" value="2"/> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <input type="text" value="100"/> % (A/B)									
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<p>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>																						

Remarks:

SOIL

Sampling Point: M-3

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0-6	10YR	3/1	100				Silt Loam	
6-14	10YR	2/1	80	10YR	4/1	20	Silt Loam	

¹Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. ²Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils³:

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- Sandy Redox (S5)
- Stripped Matrix (S6)
- Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1)
- Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- Depleted Matrix (F3)
- Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- Redox Depressions (F8)

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

³Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: _____
Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

Secondary Indicators (2 or more required)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
- Drift Deposits (B3)
- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- Iron Deposits (B5)
- Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (except MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B)
- Salt Crust (B11)
- Aquatic Invertebrates (B13)
- Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- Oxidized Rhizospheres along Living Roots (C3)
- Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1) (LRR A)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

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- Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A)
- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Water Table Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Saturation Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 (includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Murphy Ox Yoke City/County: Park Co. Sampling Date: 7/18/2014
 Applicant/Owner: MDT State: Montana Sampling Point: M-4
 Investigator(s): B Schultz Section, Township, Range: S 33 T 5S R 8E
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Lowland Local relief (concave, convex, none): flat Slope (%): 0
 Subregion (LRR): LRR E Lat: _____ Long: _____ Datum: WGS84
 Soil Map Unit Name: Vendome-Meadowcreek complex NWI classification: _____

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydric Soil Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Remarks:

VEGETATION - Use scientific names of plant

<p>Tree Stratum Plot size (30 Foot Radius) Absolute % Cover: Domiant Species? Indicator Status</p> <p>Sapling/Shrub Stratum Plot size (15 Foot Radius)</p> <p>Herbaceous Stratum Plot size (5 Foot Radius)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Carex nebrascensis</td><td align="center">5</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>OBL</td></tr> <tr><td>Carex utriculata</td><td align="center">5</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>OBL</td></tr> <tr><td>Elymus repens</td><td align="center">25</td><td align="center"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>FAC</td></tr> <tr><td>Pascopyrum smithii</td><td align="center">15</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FACU</td></tr> <tr><td>Poa pratensis</td><td align="center">10</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FAC</td></tr> <tr><td>Schedonorus pratensis</td><td align="center">35</td><td align="center"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>FACU</td></tr> <tr><td>Taraxacum officinale</td><td align="center">5</td><td align="center"><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>FACU</td></tr> </table> <p>Woody Vine Stratum Plot size (30 Foot Radius)</p> <p>Percent Bare Ground 0</p>	Carex nebrascensis	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	OBL	Carex utriculata	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	OBL	Elymus repens	25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FAC	Pascopyrum smithii	15	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACU	Poa pratensis	10	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAC	Schedonorus pratensis	35	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FACU	Taraxacum officinale	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	FACU	<p>Dominance Test worksheet</p> Number of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC: <input type="text" value="1"/> (A) Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <input type="text" value="2"/> (B) Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <input type="text" value="50"/> % (A/B)
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<p>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>																													

Remarks:

SOIL

Sampling Point: M-4

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0-6	10YR	4/2	100				Silt Loam	friable
6-12	10YR	3/2	100				Sandy Loam	

¹Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. ²Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- Histosol (A1)
- Histic Epipedon (A2)
- Black Histic (A3)
- Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
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Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils³:

- 2 cm Muck (A10)
- Red Parent Material (TF2)
- Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- Other (Explain in Remarks)

³Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: _____
Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply)

- Surface Water (A1)
- High Water Table (A2)
- Saturation (A3)
- Water Marks (B1)
- Sediment Deposits (B2)
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- Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
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- Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Water Table Present? Yes No Depth (inches): _____
 Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes No Depth (inches): _____

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

No indications of wetland hydrology identified.

MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Form (revised March 2008)

1. Project name 2. MDT project# Control#

3. Evaluation Date 4. Evaluators 5. Wetland/Site# (s)

6. Wetland Location(s): T R Sec1 T R Sec2

Approx Stationing or Mileposts

Watershed Watershed/County

7. Evaluating Agency

8. Wetland size acres
 How assessed:

Purpose of Evaluation

Wetlands potentially affected by MDT project

Mitigation Wetlands: pre-construction

Mitigation Wetlands: post construction

Other

9. Assessment area (AA) size (acres)
 How assessed:

10. Classification of Wetland and Aquatic Habitats in AA

HGM Class (Brinson)	Class (Cowardin)	Modifier (Cowardin)	Water Regime	% of AA
Depressional	Emergent Wetland	Excavated	Seasonal/Intermittent	75
Depressional	Aquatic Bed	Excavated	Permanent/Perennial	25
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

11. Estimated Relative Abundance

12. General Condition of AA

i. Disturbance: (use matrix below to determine [circle] appropriate response – see instructions for Montana-listed noxious weed and aquatic nuisance vegetation species (ANVS) lists)

Conditions within AA	Predominant conditions adjacent to (within 500 feet of) AA		
	Managed in predominantly natural state; is not grazed, hayed, logged, or otherwise converted; does not contain roads or buildings; and noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=15%.	Land not cultivated, but may be moderately grazed or hayed or selectively logged; or has been subject to minor clearing; contains few roads or buildings; noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=30%.	Land cultivated or heavily grazed or logged; subject to substantial fill placement, grading, clearing, or hydrological alteration; high road or building density; or noxious weed or ANVS cover is >=30%.
AA occurs and is managed in predominantly natural state; is not grazed, hayed, logged, or otherwise converted; does not contain roads or occupied buildings; and noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=15%.	<input type="text" value="low disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="low disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="moderate disturbance"/>
AA not cultivated, but may be moderately grazed or hayed or selectively logged; or has been subject to relatively minor clearing, fill placement, or hydrological alteration; contains few roads or buildings; noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=30%.	<input type="text" value="moderate disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="moderate disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>
AA cultivated or heavily grazed or logged; subject to relatively substantial fill placement, grading, clearing, or hydrological alteration; high road or building density; or noxious weed or ANVS cover is >=30%.	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>

Comments: (types of disturbance, intensity, season, etc)

AA was excavated five years ago. This area exhibits continued improving emergence of native plant cover with minimal bare ground. Rated high disturbance in 2010, moderate disturbance in 2011, and low disturbance in 2014. The site was previously grazed. Grazing was discontinued and site is currently managed in a natural state within the conservation easement.

ii. Prominent noxious, aquatic nuisance, other exotic species:

iii. Provide brief descriptive summary of AA and surrounding land use/habitat

AA includes two wetland cells (Cell 1 and Cell 2) constructed in 2009 within a basin adjacent to Highway 89 and a predominantly undisturbed, existing emergent and scrub-shrub riparian corridor.

13. **Structural Diversity:** (based on number of "Cowardin" **vegetated** classes present [do not include unvegetated classes], see #10 above)

Existing # of "Cowardin" Vegetated Classes in AA	Initial Rating	Is current management preventing (passive) existence of additional vegetated classes?		Modified Rating
>=3 (or 2 if 1 is forested) classes	H	NA	NA	NA
2 (or 1 if forested) classes	M	NA	NA	NA
1 class, but not a monoculture	M	<NO	YES>	L
1 class, monoculture (1 species comprises >=90% of total cover)	L	NA	NA	NA

Comments: Emergent vegetation and aquatic bed class

SECTION PERTAINING to FUNCTIONS VALUES ASSESSMEN

14A. Habitat for Federally Listed or Proposed Threatened or Endangered Plants or Animals:

i. AA is Documented (D) or Suspected (S) to contain (check one based on definitions contained in instructions):

Primary or critical habitat (list species) D S _____

Secondary habitat (list Species) D S _____

Incidental habitat (list species) D S Grizzly Bear

No usable habitat S

ii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Highest Habitat Level	doc/primary	sus/primary	doc/secondary	sus/secondary	doc/incidental	sus/incidental	None
Functional Points and Rating	1H	.9H	.8H	.7M	.3L	.1L	0L

Sources for documented use USFWS, based on landowner observation

14B. Habitat for plant or animals rated S1, S2, or S3 by the Montana Natural Heritage Program: (not including species listed in 14A above)

i. AA is Documented (D) or Suspected (S) to contain (check one based on definitions contained in instructions):

Primary or critical habitat (list species) D S _____

Secondary habitat (list Species) D S Western toad (S2), Great Blue Heron (S3), Trumpeter Swan (S3)

Incidental habitat (list species) D S _____

No usable habitat S

ii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Highest Habitat Level	doc/primary	sus/primary	doc/secondary	sus/secondary	doc/incidental	sus/incidental	None
S1 Species: Functional Points and Rating	1H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.2L	.1L	0L
S2 and S3 Species: Functional Points and Rating	.9H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.2L	.1L	0L

Sources for documented use MTNHP list for Park County; pair of Trumpeter swans observed by landowner, and during 2013 site visit.

14C. General Wildlife Habitat Rating:

i. Evidence of overall wildlife use in the AA (check substantial, moderate, or low based on supporting evidence):

Moderate

Substantial (based on any of the following [check]):

- observations of abundant wildlife #s or high species diversity (during any period)
- abundant wildlife sign such as scat, tracks, nest structures, game trails, etc.
- presence of extremely limiting habitat features not available in the surrounding area
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

Minimal (based on any of the following [check]):

- few or no wildlife observations during peak use periods
- little to no wildlife sign
- sparse adjacent upland food sources
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

Moderate (based on any of the following [check]):

- observations of scattered wildlife groups or individuals or relatively few species during peak periods
- common occurrence of wildlife sign such as scat, tracks, nest structures, game trails, etc.
- adequate adjacent upland food sources
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

ii. **Wildlife** habitat features (Working from top to bottom, check appropriate AA attributes in matrix to arrive at rating. Structural diversity is from #13. For class cover to be considered evenly distributed, the most and least prevalent **vegetated** classes must be within 20% of each other in terms of their percent composition of the AA (see #10). Abbreviations for surface water durations are as follows: P/P = permanent/perennial; S/I = seasonal/intermittent; T/E = temporary/ephemeral; and A = absent [see instructions for further definitions of these terms])

Structural diversity (see #13)	High								Moderate								Low			
	Even				Uneven				Even				Uneven				Even			
Class cover distribution (all vegetated classes)																				
Duration of surface water in ≥ 10% of AA	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A
Low disturbance at AA (see #12)	E	E	E	H	E	E	H	H	E	H	H	M	E	H	M	M	E	H	M	M
Moderate disturbance at AA (see #12)	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	M	M	H	M	M	L	H	M	L	L
High disturbance at AA (see #12)	M	M	M	L	M	M	L	L	M	M	L	L	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	L

iii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i and ii above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Evidence of wildlife use (i)	Wildlife habitat features rating (ii)											
	Exceptional			High			Moderate			Low		
Substantial		1E			.9H			.8H			.7M	
Moderate		.9H			.7M			.5M			.3L	
Minimal		.6M			.4M			.2L			.1L	

Comments Several species of bird have been observed in AA.

14D. General Fish Habitat Rating: (Assess this function if the AA is used by fish or the existing situation is "correctable" such that the AA could be used by fish [i.e., fish use is precluded by perched culvert or other barrier, etc.]. If the AA is not used by fish, fish use is not restorable due to habitat constraints, or is not desired from a management perspective [such as fish entrapped in a canal], then check NA here and proceed to 14E.)

i. **Habitat Quality and Known / Suspected Fish Species in AA** (use matrix to arrive at [check the functional points and rating])

Duration of surface water in AA	Permanent / Perennial						Seasonal / Intermittent						Temporary / Ephemeral					
	Optimal		Adequate		Poor		Optimal		Adequate		Poor		Optimal		Adequate		Poor	
Aquatic hiding / resting / escape cover	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
Thermal cover optimal / suboptimal	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
FWP Tier I fish species	1E	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.3L
FWP Tier II or Native Game fish species	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.5M	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.2L
FWP Tier III or Introduced Game fish	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.2L	.1L
FWP Non-Game Tier IV or No fish species	.5M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.4M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.3L	.2L	.2L	.2L	.2L	.1L	.1L	.1L

Sources used for identifying fish sp. potentially found in AA:

ii. **Modified Rating** (NOTE: Modified score cannot exceed 1 or be less than 0.1)

a) Is fish use of the AA significantly reduced by a culvert, dike, or other man-made structure or activity or is the waterbody included on the current final MDEQ list of waterbodies in need of TMDL development with listed "Probable Impaired Uses" including cold or warm water fishery or aquatic life support, or do aquatic nuisance plant or animal species (see Appendix E) occur in fish habitat? Y N If yes, reduce score in i above by 0.1: **Modified Rating**

b) Does the AA contain a documented spawning area or other critical habitat feature (i.e., sanctuary pool, upwelling area, etc. - specify in comments) for native fish or introduced game fish? Y N If yes, add 0.1 to the adjusted score in i or iia above:

Modified Rating

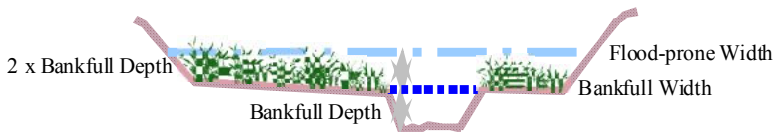
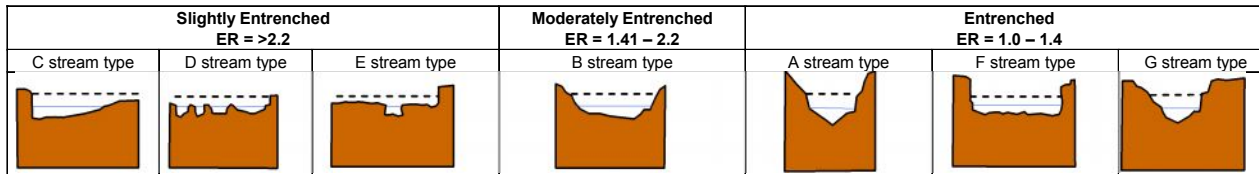
iii. **Final Score and Rating:**

Comments: No fishery habitat in AA.

14E. Flood Attenuation: (Applies only to wetlands subject to flooding via in-channel or overbank flow. If wetlands in AA are not flooded from in-channel or overbank flow, click NA here and proceed to 14F.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Estimated or Calculated Entrenchment (Rosgen 1994, 1996)	Slightly entrenched - C, D, E stream types			Moderately entrenched - B stream type			Entrenched-A, F, G stream types		
	75%	25-75%	<25%	75%	25-75%	<25%	75%	25-75%	<25%
AA contains no outlet or restricted outlet	1H	.9H	.6M	.8H	.7M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
AA contains unrestricted outlet	.9H	.8H	.5M	.7M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L



Floodprone width / Bankfull width = Entrenchment ratio

ii. Are ≥10 acres of wetland in the AA subject to flooding AND are man-made features which may be significantly damaged by floods located within 0.5 mile downstream of the AA (check)? Y N

Comments:

Cells subject to flooding from Murphy Creek (slightly entrenched). AA contains restricted outlet.

14F. Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage: (Applies to wetlands that flood or pond from overbank or in-channel flow, precipitation, upland surface flow, or groundwater flow. If no wetlands in the AA are subject to flooding or ponding, click NA here and proceed to 14G.)

i. **Rating** (Working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating. Abbreviations for surface water durations are as follows: P/P = permanent/perennial; S/I = seasonal/intermittent; and T/E = temporary/ephemeral [see instructions for further definitions of these terms].)

Estimated maximum acre feet of water contained in wetlands within the AA that are subject to periodic flooding or ponding	>5 acre feet			1.1 to 5 acre feet			≤1 acre foot		
	P/P	S/I	T/E	P/P	S/I	T/E	P/P	S/I	T/E
Duration of surface water at wetlands within the AA									
Wetlands in AA flood or pond ≥ 5 out of 10 years	1H	.9H	.8H	.8H	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
Wetlands in AA flood or pond < 5 out of 10 years	.9H	.8H	.7M	.7M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments: Storage estimated at 4.45 acres flooded to a depth greater than 1.25 feet.

14G. Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Retention and Removal: (Applies to wetlands with potential to receive sediments, nutrients, or toxicants through influx of surface or ground water or direct input. If no wetlands in the AA are subject to such input, click **NA** here and proceed to 14H.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating [H = high, M = moderate, or L = low])

Sediment, nutrient, and toxicant input levels within AA	AA receives or surrounding land use with potential to deliver levels of sediments, nutrients, or compounds at levels such that other functions are not substantially impaired. Minor sedimentation, sources of nutrients or toxicants, or signs of eutrophication present.				Waterbody on MDEQ list of waterbodies in need of TMDL development for "probable causes" related to sediment, nutrients, or toxicants or AA receives or surrounding land use with potential to deliver high levels of sediments, nutrients, or compounds such that other functions are substantially impaired. Major sedimentation, sources of nutrients or toxicants, or signs of eutrophication present.			
% cover of wetland vegetation in AA	≥ 70%				< 70%			
Evidence of flooding / ponding in AA	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
AA contains no or restricted outlet	1H	.8H	.7M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
AA contains unrestricted outlet	.9H	.7M	.6M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments: Vegetation continues to develop within excavated basins.

14H Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization: (Applies only if AA occurs on or within the banks of a river, stream, or other natural or man-made drainage, or on the shoreline of a standing water body which is subject to wave action. If 14H does not apply, click **NA** here and proceed to 14I.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

% Cover of wetland streambank or shoreline by species with stability ratings of ≥6 (see Appendix F).	Duration of surface water adjacent to rooted vegetation					
	Permanent / Perennial		Seasonal / Intermittent		Temporary / Ephemeral	
≥ 65%	1H		.9H		.7M	
35-64%	.7M		.6M		.5M	
< 35%	.3L		.2L		.1L	

Shoreline vegetation cover continues to increase in the AA. Glyceria, Typha, and Juncus, and Carex were observed at this site.

Comments:

14I. Production Export/Food Chain Support:

i. **Level of Biological Activity** (synthesis of wildlife and fish habitat ratings [check])

General Fish Habitat Rating (14D.iii.)	General Wildlife Habitat Rating (14C.iii.)		
	E/H	M	L
E/H	H	H	M
M	H	M	M
L	M	M	L
N/A	H	M	L

ii. **Rating** (Working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating. Factor A = acreage of vegetated wetland component in the AA; Factor B = level of biological activity rating from above (14I.i.); Factor C = whether or not the AA contains a surface or subsurface outlet; the final three rows pertain to duration of surface water in the AA, where P/P, S/I, and T/E are as previously defined, and A = "absent" [see instructions for further definitions of these terms].)

A	Vegetated component >5 acres						Vegetated component 1-5 acres						Vegetated component <1 acre					
	High		Moderate		Low		High		Moderate		Low		High		Moderate		Low	
B	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
C	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
P/P	1E	.7H	.8H	.5M	.6M	.4M	.9H	.6M	.7H	.4M	.5M	.3L	.8H	.6M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.2L
S/I	.9H	.6M	.7H	.4M	.5M	.3L	.8H	.5M	.6M	.3L	.4M	.2L	.7H	.5M	.5M	.3L	.3L	.2L
T/E/A	.8H	.5M	.6M	.3L	.4M	.2L	.7H	.4M	.5M	.2L	.3L	.1L	.6M	.4M	.4M	.2L	.2L	.1L

iii. **Modified Rating** (NOTE: Modified score cannot exceed 1 or be less than 0.1.) **Vegetated Upland Buffer (VUB):** Area with ≥ 30% plant cover, ≤ 15% noxious weed or ANVS cover, and that is not subjected to periodic mechanical mowing or clearing (unless for weed control).

a) Is there an average ≥ 50 foot-wide vegetated upland buffer around ≥ 75% of the AA circumference? Y N If yes, add 0.1 to the score in ii above and adjust rating accordingly: **Modified Rating** .7M

Comments:

14J. Groundwater Discharge/Recharge: (check the appropriate indicators in i & ii below)

i. Discharge Indicators

- The AA is a slope wetland
- Springs or seeps are known or observed
- Vegetation growing during dormant season/drought
- Wetland occurs at the toe of a natural slope
- Seeps are present at the wetland edge
- AA permanently flooded during drought periods
- Wetland contains an outlet, but no inlet
- Shallow water table and the site is saturated to the surface
- Other:

ii. Recharge Indicators

- Permeable substrate present without underlying impeding layer
- Wetland contains inlet but no outlet
- Stream is a known 'losing' stream; discharge volume decreases
- Other:

iii. Rating (use the information from i and ii above and the table below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Criteria	Duration of saturation at AA Wetlands <i>FROM GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE OR WITH WATER THAT IS RECHARGING THE GROUNDWATER SYSTEM</i>			
	P/P	S/I	T	None
Groundwater Discharge or Recharge	1H	.7M	.4M	.1L
Insufficient Data/Information	NA			

Comments:

14K. Uniqueness:

i. Rating (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Replacement potential	AA contains fen, bog, warm springs or mature (>80 yr-old) forested wetland or plant association listed as "S1" by the MTNHP			AA does not contain previously cited rare types and structural diversity (#13) is high or contains plant association listed as "S2" by the MTNHP			AA does not contain previously cited rare types or associations and structural diversity (#13) is low-moderate		
	rare	common	abundant	rare	common	abundant	rare	common	abundant
Low disturbance at AA (#12i)	1H	.9H	.8H	.8H	.6M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.3L
Moderate disturbance at AA (#12i)	.9H	.8H	.7M	.7M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.2L
High disturbance at AA (#12i)	.8H	.7H	.6M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments:

14L. Recreation/Education Potential: (affords "bonus" points if AA provides recreation or education opportunity)

i. Is the AA a known or potential rec.ed. site: (check) Y N NA (if 'Yes' continue with the evaluation; if 'No' then click NA here and proceed to the overall summary and rating page)

ii. Check categories that apply to the AA: Educational/scientific study; Consumptive rec.; Non-consumptive rec.; Other

iii. Rating (use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Known or Potential Recreation or Education Area	Known	Potential
Public ownership or public easement with general public access (no permission required)	.2H	.15H
Private ownership with general public access (no permission required)	.15H	.1M
Private or public ownership without general public access, or requiring permission for public access	.1M	.05L

Comments:

General Site Notes

FUNCTION & VALUE SUMMARY & OVERALL RATING FOR WETLAND/SITE #(S): Wetland Creation

Function & Value Variables	Rating	Actual Functional Points	Possible Functional Points	Functional Units: (Actual Points x Estimated AA Acreage)	Indicate the four most prominent functions with an asterisk (*)
A. Listed/Proposed T&E Species Habitat	L	.3	1	1.635	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. MT Natural Heritage Program Species Habitat	M	.6	1	3.27	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. General Wildlife Habitat	H	.9	1	4.905	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. General Fish Habitat	NA	0	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Flood Attenuation	M	.6	1	3.27	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage	H	1	1	5.45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
G. Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	H	1	1	5.45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
H. Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization	H	1	1	5.45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I. Production Export/Food Chain Support	M	.7	1	3.815	<input type="checkbox"/>
J. Groundwater Discharge/Recharge	H	1	1	5.45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
K. Uniqueness	M	.4	1	2.18	<input type="checkbox"/>
L. Recreation/Education Potential (bonus points)	M	.1	NA	0.545	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:		7.6	10	41.42	
Percent of Possible Score			76 %		

Category I Wetland: (must satisfy **one** of the following criteria; otherwise go to Category II)

- Score of 1 functional point for Listed/Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species; **or**
- Score of 1 functional point for Uniqueness; **or**
- Score of 1 functional point for Flood Attenuation **and** answer to Question 14E.ii is "yes"; **or**
- Percent of possible score > 80% (round to nearest whole #).

Category II Wetland: (Criteria for Category I not satisfied **and** meets any **one** of the following criteria; otherwise go to Category IV)

- Score of 1 functional point for MT Natural Heritage Program Species Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 or 1 functional point for General Wildlife Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 or 1 functional point for General Fish Habitat; **or**
- "High" to "Exceptional" ratings for **both** General Wildlife Habitat **and** General Fish/Aquatic Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 functional point for Uniqueness; **or**
- Percent of possible score > 65% (round to nearest whole #).

Category III Wetland: (Criteria for Categories I, II, or IV not satisfied)

-

Category IV Wetland: (Criteria for Categories I or II are not satisfied and all of the following criteria are met; otherwise go to Category III)

- "Low" rating for Uniqueness; **and**
- Vegetated wetland component < 1 acre (do not include upland vegetated buffer); **and**
- Percent of possible score < 35% (round to nearest whole #).

OVERALL ANALYSIS AREA RATING:
(check appropriate category based on the criteria outlined above)

I	II	III	IV
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MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Form (revised March 2008)

1. Project name 2. MDT project# Control#

3. Evaluation Date 4. Evaluators 5. Wetland/Site# (s)

6. Wetland Location(s): T R Sec1 T R Sec2

Approx Stationing or Mileposts

Watershed Watershed/County

7. Evaluating Agency

8. Wetland size acres

Purpose of Evaluation

Wetlands potentially affected by MDT project

Mitigation Wetlands: pre-construction

Mitigation Wetlands: post construction

Other

How assessed:

9. Assessment area (AA) size (acres)

How assessed:

10. Classification of Wetland and Aquatic Habitats in AA

HGM Class (Brinson)	Class (Cowardin)	Modifier (Cowardin)	Water Regime	% of AA
Riverine	Emergent Wetland		Permanent/Perennial	50
Riverine	Scrub-Shrub Wetland		Permanent/Perennial	50

11. Estimated Relative Abundance

12. General Condition of AA

i. Disturbance: (use matrix below to determine [circle] appropriate response – see instructions for Montana-listed noxious weed and aquatic nuisance vegetation species (ANVS) lists)

Conditions within AA	Predominant conditions adjacent to (within 500 feet of) AA		
	Managed in predominantly natural state; is not grazed, hayed, logged, or otherwise converted; does not contain roads or buildings; and noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=15%.	Land not cultivated, but may be moderately grazed or hayed or selectively logged; or has been subject to minor clearing; contains few roads or buildings; noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=30%.	Land cultivated or heavily grazed or logged; subject to substantial fill placement, grading, clearing, or hydrological alteration; high road or building density; or noxious weed or ANVS cover is >=30%.
AA occurs and is managed in predominantly natural state; is not grazed, hayed, logged, or otherwise converted; does not contain roads or occupied buildings; and noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=15%.	<input type="radio"/> low disturbance	<input type="radio"/> low disturbance	<input type="radio"/> moderate disturbance
AA not cultivated, but may be moderately grazed or hayed or selectively logged; or has been subject to relatively minor clearing, fill placement, or hydrological alteration; contains few roads or buildings; noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=30%.	<input type="radio"/> moderate disturbance	<input type="radio"/> moderate disturbance	<input type="radio"/> high disturbance
AA cultivated or heavily grazed or logged; subject to relatively substantial fill placement, grading, clearing, or hydrological alteration; high road or building density; or noxious weed or ANVS cover is >=30%.	<input type="radio"/> high disturbance	<input type="radio"/> high disturbance	<input type="radio"/> high disturbance

Comments: (types of disturbance, intensity, season, etc)

Existing riparian corridor associated with Murphy Creek located on the east half of the site that was historically grazed. Grazing or haying no longer occur within this AA and it is managed in a natural state protected by a conservation easement. Noxious weed coverage is less than 15%.

ii. Prominent noxious, aquatic nuisance, other exotic species:

iii. Provide brief descriptive summary of AA and surrounding land use/habitat

AA encompasses 2.24 acres of existing wetland identified during original delineation and targeted for preservation in the mitigation plan. Scrub-shrub corridor between Park Branch Canal and created wetland cells. AA and adjacent land not currently grazed. Highway 89 is located west of the site. Murphy Creek was flowing during the site visit.

13. **Structural Diversity:** (based on number of "Cowardin" **vegetated** classes present [do not include unvegetated classes], see #10 above)

Existing # of "Cowardin" Vegetated Classes in AA	Initial Rating	Is current management preventing (passive) existence of additional vegetated classes?		Modified Rating
>=3 (or 2 if 1 is forested) classes	H	NA	NA	NA
2 (or 1 if forested) classes	M	NA	NA	NA
1 class, but not a monoculture	M	<NO	YES>	L
1 class, monoculture (1 species comprises >=90% of total cover)	L	NA	NA	NA

Comments: Scrub-shrub and emergent.

SECTION PERTAINING to FUNCTIONS VALUES ASSESSMEN

14A. Habitat for Federally Listed or Proposed Threatened or Endangered Plants or Animals:

i. AA is Documented (D) or Suspected (S) to contain (check one based on definitions contained in instructions):

Primary or critical habitat (list species) D S _____

Secondary habitat (list Species) D S _____

Incidental habitat (list species) D S Grizzly Bear

No usable habitat S

ii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Highest Habitat Level	doc/primary	sus/primary	doc/secondary	sus/secondary	doc/incidental	sus/incidental	None
Functional Points and Rating	1H	.9H	.8H	.7M	.3L	.1L	0L

Sources for documented use listed on USFWS T&E, landowner observed.

14B. Habitat for plant or animals rated S1, S2, or S3 by the Montana Natural Heritage Program: (not including species listed in 14A above)

i. AA is Documented (D) or Suspected (S) to contain (check one based on definitions contained in instructions):

Primary or critical habitat (list species) D S _____

Secondary habitat (list Species) D S Western toad (S2), Great Blue Heron (S3), Trumpeter Swan (S3)

Incidental habitat (list species) D S _____

No usable habitat S

ii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Highest Habitat Level	doc/primary	sus/primary	doc/secondary	sus/secondary	doc/incidental	sus/incidental	None
S1 Species: Functional Points and Rating	1H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.2L	.1L	0L
S2 and S3 Species: Functional Points and Rating	.9H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.2L	.1L	0L

Sources for documented use MTNHP list and field observations. Trumpeter Swans were observed in 2013.

14C. General Wildlife Habitat Rating:

i. Evidence of overall wildlife use in the AA (check substantial, moderate, or low based on supporting evidence):

Moderate

Substantial (based on any of the following [check]):

- observations of abundant wildlife #s or high species diversity (during any period)
- abundant wildlife sign such as scat, tracks, nest structures, game trails, etc.
- presence of extremely limiting habitat features not available in the surrounding area
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

Minimal (based on any of the following [check]):

- few or no wildlife observations during peak use periods
- little to no wildlife sign
- sparse adjacent upland food sources
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

Moderate (based on any of the following [check]):

- observations of scattered wildlife groups or individuals or relatively few species during peak periods
- common occurrence of wildlife sign such as scat, tracks, nest structures, game trails, etc.
- adequate adjacent upland food sources
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

ii. **Wildlife** habitat features (Working from top to bottom, check appropriate AA attributes in matrix to arrive at rating. Structural diversity is from #13. For class cover to be considered evenly distributed, the most and least prevalent **vegetated** classes must be within 20% of each other in terms of their percent composition of the AA (see #10). Abbreviations for surface water durations are as follows: P/P = permanent/perennial; S/I = seasonal/intermittent; T/E = temporary/ephemeral; and A = absent [see instructions for further definitions of these terms])

Structural diversity (see #13)	High								Moderate								Low			
	Even				Uneven				Even				Uneven				Even			
Class cover distribution (all vegetated classes)																				
Duration of surface water in ≥ 10% of AA	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A
Low disturbance at AA (see #12)	E	E	E	H	E	E	H	H	E	H	H	M	E	H	M	M	E	H	M	M
Moderate disturbance at AA (see #12)	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	M	M	H	M	M	L	H	M	L	L
High disturbance at AA (see #12)	M	M	M	L	M	M	L	L	M	M	L	L	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	L

iii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i and ii above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Evidence of wildlife use (i)	Wildlife habitat features rating (ii)											
	Exceptional			High			Moderate			Low		
Substantial		1E			.9H			.8H			.7M	
Moderate		.9H			.7M			.5M			.3L	
Minimal		.6M			.4M			.2L			.1L	

Comments Trumpeter swans were observed in 2013.

14D. General Fish Habitat Rating: (Assess this function if the AA is used by fish or the existing situation is "correctable" such that the AA could be used by fish [i.e., fish use is precluded by perched culvert or other barrier, etc.]. If the AA is not used by fish, fish use is not restorable due to habitat constraints, or is not desired from a management perspective [such as fish entrapped in a canal], then check **NA** here and proceed to 14E.)

i. **Habitat Quality and Known / Suspected Fish Species in AA** (use matrix to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Duration of surface water in AA	Permanent / Perennial						Seasonal / Intermittent						Temporary / Ephemeral					
	Optimal		Adequate		Poor		Optimal		Adequate		Poor		Optimal		Adequate		Poor	
Aquatic hiding / resting / escape cover	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
Thermal cover optimal / suboptimal	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
FWP Tier I fish species	1E	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.3L
FWP Tier II or Native Game fish species	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.5M	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.2L
FWP Tier III or Introduced Game fish	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.2L	.1L
FWP Non-Game Tier IV or No fish species	.5M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.4M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.3L	.2L	.2L	.2L	.2L	.1L	.1L	.1L

Sources used for identifying fish sp. potentially found in AA:

ii. **Modified Rating** (NOTE: Modified score cannot exceed 1 or be less than 0.1)

a) Is fish use of the AA significantly reduced by a culvert, dike, or other man-made structure or activity or is the waterbody included on the current final MDEQ list of waterbodies in need of TMDL development with listed "Probable Impaired Uses" including cold or warm water fishery or aquatic life support, or do aquatic nuisance plant or animal species (see Appendix E) occur in fish habitat? Y N If yes, reduce score in i above by 0.1: **Modified Rating**

b) Does the AA contain a documented spawning area or other critical habitat feature (i.e., sanctuary pool, upwelling area, etc. - specify in comments) for native fish or introduced game fish? Y N If yes, add 0.1 to the adjusted score in i or iia above:

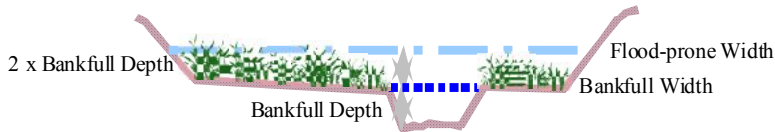
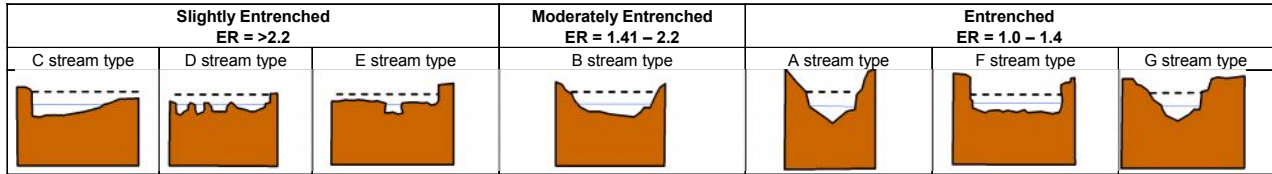
Modified Rating

iii. **Final Score and Rating:** **Comments:**

14E. Flood Attenuation: (Applies only to wetlands subject to flooding via in-channel or overbank flow. If wetlands in AA are not flooded from in-channel or overbank flow, click NA here and proceed to 14F.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Estimated or Calculated Entrenchment (Rosgen 1994, 1996)	Slightly entrenched - C, D, E stream types			Moderately entrenched - B stream type			Entrenched-A, F, G stream types		
	75%	25-75%	<25%	75%	25-75%	<25%	75%	25-75%	<25%
AA contains no outlet or restricted outlet	1H	.9H	.6M	.8H	.7M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
AA contains unrestricted outlet	.9H	.8H	.5M	.7M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L



Floodprone width / Bankfull width = Entrenchment ratio

ii. Are ≥10 acres of wetland in the AA subject to flooding AND are man-made features which may be significantly damaged by floods located within 0.5 mile downstream of the AA (check)? Y N

Comments:

14F. Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage: (Applies to wetlands that flood or pond from overbank or in-channel flow, precipitation, upland surface flow, or groundwater flow. If no wetlands in the AA are subject to flooding or ponding, click NA here and proceed to 14G.)

i. **Rating** (Working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating. Abbreviations for surface water durations are as follows: P/P = permanent/perennial; S/I = seasonal/intermittent; and T/E = temporary/ephemeral [see instructions for further definitions of these terms].)

Estimated maximum acre feet of water contained in wetlands within the AA that are subject to periodic flooding or ponding	>5 acre feet			1.1 to 5 acre feet			≤1 acre foot		
	P/P	S/I	T/E	P/P	S/I	T/E	P/P	S/I	T/E
Wetlands in AA flood or pond ≥ 5 out of 10 years	1H	.9H	.8H	.8H	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
Wetlands in AA flood or pond < 5 out of 10 years	.9H	.8H	.7M	.7M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments:

14G. Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Retention and Removal: (Applies to wetlands with potential to receive sediments, nutrients, or toxicants through influx of surface or ground water or direct input. If no wetlands in the AA are subject to such input, click **NA** here and proceed to 14H.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating [H = high, M = moderate, or L = low])

Sediment, nutrient, and toxicant input levels within AA	AA receives or surrounding land use with potential to deliver levels of sediments, nutrients, or compounds at levels such that other functions are not substantially impaired. Minor sedimentation, sources of nutrients or toxicants, or signs of eutrophication present.				Waterbody on MDEQ list of waterbodies in need of TMDL development for "probable causes" related to sediment, nutrients, or toxicants or AA receives or surrounding land use with potential to deliver high levels of sediments, nutrients, or compounds such that other functions are substantially impaired. Major sedimentation, sources of nutrients or toxicants, or signs of eutrophication present.			
% cover of wetland vegetation in AA	≥ 70%				< 70%			
Evidence of flooding / ponding in AA	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
AA contains no or restricted outlet	1H	.8H	.7M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
AA contains unrestricted outlet	.9H	.7M	.6M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments: Murphy Creek discharges to the Yellowstone River via culvert under the Park Branch Canal.

14H Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization: (Applies only if AA occurs on or within the banks of a river, stream, or other natural or man-made drainage, or on the shoreline of a standing water body which is subject to wave action. If 14H does not apply, click **NA** here and proceed to 14I.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

% Cover of <u>wetland</u> streambank or shoreline by species with stability ratings of ≥6 (see Appendix F).	Duration of surface water adjacent to rooted vegetation					
	Permanent / Perennial		Seasonal / Intermittent		Temporary / Ephemeral	
≥ 65%	1H		.9H		.7M	
35-64%	.7M		.6M		.5M	
< 35%	.3L		.2L		.1L	

Comments: Riparian corridor well vegetated with sandbar, Pacific, Lemmon, Drummond, and diamond-leaf willows, cattail, Northwest Territory and Nebraska sedge, and mannagrass.

14I. Production Export/Food Chain Support:

i. **Level of Biological Activity** (synthesis of wildlife and fish habitat ratings [check])

General Fish Habitat Rating (14D.iii.)	General Wildlife Habitat Rating (14C.iii.)		
	E/H	M	L
E/H	H	H	M
M	H	M	M
L	M	M	L
N/A	H	M	L

ii. **Rating** (Working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating. Factor A = acreage of vegetated wetland component in the AA; Factor B = level of biological activity rating from above (14I.i.); Factor C = whether or not the AA contains a surface or subsurface outlet; the final three rows pertain to duration of surface water in the AA, where P/P, S/I, and T/E are as previously defined, and A = "absent" [see instructions for further definitions of these terms].)

A	Vegetated component >5 acres						Vegetated component 1-5 acres						Vegetated component <1 acre					
	High		Moderate		Low		High		Moderate		Low		High		Moderate		Low	
C	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
P/P	1E	.7H	.8H	.5M	.6M	.4M	.9H	.6M	.7H	.4M	.5M	.3L	.8H	.6M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.2L
S/I	.9H	.6M	.7H	.4M	.5M	.3L	.8H	.5M	.6M	.3L	.4M	.2L	.7H	.5M	.5M	.3L	.3L	.2L
T/E/A	.8H	.5M	.6M	.3L	.4M	.2L	.7H	.4M	.5M	.2L	.3L	.1L	.6M	.4M	.4M	.2L	.2L	.1L

iii. **Modified Rating** (NOTE: Modified score cannot exceed 1 or be less than 0.1.) **Vegetated Upland Buffer (VUB):** Area with ≥ 30% plant cover, ≤ 15% noxious weed or ANVS cover, and that is not subjected to periodic mechanical mowing or clearing (unless for weed control).

a) Is there an average ≥ 50 foot-wide vegetated upland buffer around ≥ 75% of the AA circumference? Y N If yes, add 0.1 to the score in ii above and adjust rating accordingly: **Modified Rating** 1 E

Comments: Surrounded by undisturbed upland buffer that contains greater than 30% cover and less than 15% noxious weeds.

14J. Groundwater Discharge/Recharge: (check the appropriate indicators in i & ii below)

i. Discharge Indicators

- The AA is a slope wetland
- Springs or seeps are known or observed
- Vegetation growing during dormant season/drought
- Wetland occurs at the toe of a natural slope
- Seeps are present at the wetland edge
- AA permanently flooded during drought periods
- Wetland contains an outlet, but no inlet
- Shallow water table and the site is saturated to the surface
- Other:

ii. Recharge Indicators

- Permeable substrate present without underlying impeding layer
- Wetland contains inlet but no outlet
- Stream is a known 'losing' stream; discharge volume decreases
- Other:

iii. Rating (use the information from i and ii above and the table below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Criteria	Duration of saturation at AA Wetlands <i>FROM GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE OR WITH WATER THAT IS RECHARGING THE GROUNDWATER SYSTEM</i>			
	P/P	S/I	T	None
Groundwater Discharge or Recharge	1H	.7M	.4M	.1L
Insufficient Data/Information	NA			

Comments: Shallow ground water was observed throughout the site with inundation in the north cell and partial inundation in the south cell.

14K. Uniqueness:

i. Rating (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Replacement potential	AA contains fen, bog, warm springs or mature (>80 yr-old) forested wetland or plant association listed as "S1" by the MTNHP			AA does not contain previously cited rare types and structural diversity (#13) is high or contains plant association listed as "S2" by the MTNHP			AA does not contain previously cited rare types or associations and structural diversity (#13) is low-moderate		
	rare	common	abundant	rare	common	abundant	rare	common	abundant
Low disturbance at AA (#12i)	1H	.9H	.8H	.8H	.6M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.3L
Moderate disturbance at AA (#12i)	.9H	.8H	.7M	.7M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.2L
High disturbance at AA (#12i)	.8H	.7H	.6M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments:

14L. Recreation/Education Potential: (affords "bonus" points if AA provides recreation or education opportunity)

i. Is the AA a known or potential rec.ed. site: (check) Y N NA (if 'Yes' continue with the evaluation; if 'No' then click NA here and proceed to the overall summary and rating page)

ii. Check categories that apply to the AA: Educational/scientific study; Consumptive rec.; Non-consumptive rec.; Other

iii. Rating (use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Known or Potential Recreation or Education Area	Known	Potential
Public ownership or public easement with general public access (no permission required)	.2H	.15H
Private ownership with general public access (no permission required)	.15H	.1M
Private or public ownership without general public access, or requiring permission for public access	.1M	.05L

Comments: Access to the site is limited. Owner permission is required for access.

General Site Notes

There have been notable changes (decrease in bare ground and increase in wetland species) at this site from 2010 to 2014.

FUNCTION & VALUE SUMMARY & OVERALL RATING FOR WETLAND/SITE #(S): Wetland Preservation

Function & Value Variables	Rating	Actual Functional Points	Possible Functional Points	Functional Units: (Actual Points x Estimated AA Acreage)	Indicate the four most prominent functions with an asterisk (*)
A. Listed/Proposed T&E Species Habitat	L	.3	1	0.672	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. MT Natural Heritage Program Species Habitat	M	.6	1	1.344	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. General Wildlife Habitat	H	.9	1	2.016	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
D. General Fish Habitat	NA	0	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Flood Attenuation	H	.9	1	2.016	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage	H	.8	1	1.792	<input type="checkbox"/>
G. Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	H	1	1	2.24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
H. Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization	H	1	1	2.24	<input type="checkbox"/>
I. Production Export/Food Chain Support	E	1	1	2.24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
J. Groundwater Discharge/Recharge	H	1	1	2.24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
K. Uniqueness	M	.4	1	0.896	<input type="checkbox"/>
L. Recreation/Education Potential (bonus points)	M	.1	NA	0.224	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:		8	10	17.92	
Percent of Possible Score			80 %		

Category I Wetland: (must satisfy **one** of the following criteria; otherwise go to Category II)

- Score of 1 functional point for Listed/Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species; **or**
- Score of 1 functional point for Uniqueness; **or**
- Score of 1 functional point for Flood Attenuation **and** answer to Question 14E.ii is "yes"; **or**
- Percent of possible score > 80% (round to nearest whole #).

Category II Wetland: (Criteria for Category I not satisfied **and** meets any **one** of the following criteria; otherwise go to Category IV)

- Score of 1 functional point for MT Natural Heritage Program Species Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 or 1 functional point for General Wildlife Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 or 1 functional point for General Fish Habitat; **or**
- "High" to "Exceptional" ratings for **both** General Wildlife Habitat **and** General Fish/Aquatic Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 functional point for Uniqueness; **or**
- Percent of possible score > 65% (round to nearest whole #).

Category III Wetland: (Criteria for Categories I, II, or IV not satisfied)

-

Category IV Wetland: (Criteria for Categories I or II are not satisfied and all of the following criteria are met; otherwise go to Category III)

- "Low" rating for Uniqueness; **and**
- Vegetated wetland component < 1 acre (do not include upland vegetated buffer); **and**
- Percent of possible score < 35% (round to nearest whole #).

OVERALL ANALYSIS AREA RATING:
(check appropriate category based on the criteria outlined above)

I	II	III	IV
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MDT Montana Wetland Assessment Form (revised March 2008)

1. Project name 2. MDT project# Control#

3. Evaluation Date 4. Evaluators 5. Wetland/Site# (s)

6. Wetland Location(s): T R Sec1 T R Sec2

Approx Stationing or Mileposts

Watershed Watershed/County

7. Evaluating Agency 8. Wetland size acres

Purpose of Evaluation
 Wetlands potentially affected by MDT project
 Mitigation Wetlands: pre-construction
 Mitigation Wetlands: post construction
 Other

How assessed:

9. Assessment area (AA) size (acres)
 How assessed:

10. Classification of Wetland and Aquatic Habitats in AA

HGM Class (Brinson)	Class (Cowardin)	Modifier (Cowardin)	Water Regime	% of AA
Depressional	Emergent Wetland		Seasonal/Intermittent	100
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

11. Estimated Relative Abundance

12. General Condition of AA

i. Disturbance: (use matrix below to determine [circle] appropriate response – see instructions for Montana-listed noxious weed and aquatic nuisance vegetation species (ANVS) lists)

Conditions within AA	Predominant conditions adjacent to (within 500 feet of) AA		
	Managed in predominantly natural state; is not grazed, hayed, logged, or otherwise converted; does not contain roads or buildings; and noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=15%.	Land not cultivated, but may be moderately grazed or hayed or selectively logged; or has been subject to minor clearing; contains few roads or buildings; noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=30%.	Land cultivated or heavily grazed or logged; subject to substantial fill placement, grading, clearing, or hydrological alteration; high road or building density; or noxious weed or ANVS cover is >=30%.
AA occurs and is managed in predominantly natural state; is not grazed, hayed, logged, or otherwise converted; does not contain roads or occupied buildings; and noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=15%.	<input type="text" value="low disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="low disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="moderate disturbance"/>
AA not cultivated, but may be moderately grazed or hayed or selectively logged; or has been subject to relatively minor clearing, fill placement, or hydrological alteration; contains few roads or buildings; noxious weed or ANVS cover is <=30%.	<input type="text" value="moderate disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="moderate disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>
AA cultivated or heavily grazed or logged; subject to relatively substantial fill placement, grading, clearing, or hydrological alteration; high road or building density; or noxious weed or ANVS cover is >=30%.	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>	<input type="text" value="high disturbance"/>

Comments: (types of disturbance, intensity, season, etc)

Previously used for agricultural purposes and currently managed in a natural state under conservation easement.

ii. Prominent noxious, aquatic nuisance, other exotic species:

iii. Provide brief descriptive summary of AA and surrounding land use/habitat

AA in NW corner of project area delineated as wet meadow was included in mitigation plan as restoration. Site baseline documented in 2003. Area adjacent to Hwy 89 on west, created wetland south. Drainage ditch was plugged and area reseeded. East half of AA lies west of Murphy Creek. High ground water in AA.

13. **Structural Diversity:** (based on number of "Cowardin" *vegetated* classes present [do not include unvegetated classes], see #10 above)

Existing # of "Cowardin" Vegetated Classes in AA	Initial Rating	Is current management preventing (passive) existence of additional vegetated classes?		Modified Rating
>=3 (or 2 if 1 is forested) classes	H	NA	NA	NA
2 (or 1 if forested) classes	M	NA	NA	NA
1 class, but not a monoculture	M	<NO	YES>	L
1 class, monoculture (1 species comprises >=90% of total cover)	L	NA	NA	NA

Comments: Emergent vegetation.

SECTION PERTAINING to FUNCTIONS VALUES ASSESSMEN

14A. Habitat for Federally Listed or Proposed Threatened or Endangered Plants or Animals:

i. AA is Documented (D) or Suspected (S) to contain (check one based on definitions contained in instructions):

Primary or critical habitat (list species) D S _____

Secondary habitat (list Species) D S _____

Incidental habitat (list species) D S Grizzly Bear

No usable habitat S

ii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Highest Habitat Level	doc/primary	sus/primary	doc/secondary	sus/secondary	doc/incidental	sus/incidental	None
Functional Points and Rating	1H	.9H	.8H	.7M	.3L	.1L	0L

Sources for documented use USFWS listed, landowner observed.

14B. Habitat for plant or animals rated S1, S2, or S3 by the Montana Natural Heritage Program: (not including species listed in 14A above)

i. AA is Documented (D) or Suspected (S) to contain (check one based on definitions contained in instructions):

Primary or critical habitat (list species) D S _____

Secondary habitat (list Species) D S Western toad (S2), Great Blue Heron (S3), Trumpeter Sawn (S3)

Incidental habitat (list species) D S _____

No usable habitat S

ii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Highest Habitat Level	doc/primary	sus/primary	doc/secondary	sus/secondary	doc/incidental	sus/incidental	None
S1 Species: Functional Points and Rating	1H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.2L	.1L	0L
S2 and S3 Species: Functional Points and Rating	.9H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.2L	.1L	0L

Sources for documented use MTNHP listed, Western toad observed in 2011, not positively Ided. Swans observed in 2013.

14C. General Wildlife Habitat Rating:

i. Evidence of overall wildlife use in the AA (check substantial, moderate, or low based on supporting evidence):

Moderate

Substantial (based on any of the following [check]):

- observations of abundant wildlife #s or high species diversity (during any period)
- abundant wildlife sign such as scat, tracks, nest structures, game trails, etc.
- presence of extremely limiting habitat features not available in the surrounding area
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

Minimal (based on any of the following [check]):

- few or no wildlife observations during peak use periods
- little to no wildlife sign
- sparse adjacent upland food sources
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

Moderate (based on any of the following [check]):

- observations of scattered wildlife groups or individuals or relatively few species during peak periods
- common occurrence of wildlife sign such as scat, tracks, nest structures, game trails, etc.
- adequate adjacent upland food sources
- interviews with local biologists with knowledge of the AA

ii. **Wildlife** habitat features (Working from top to bottom, check appropriate AA attributes in matrix to arrive at rating. Structural diversity is from #13. For class cover to be considered evenly distributed, the most and least prevalent **vegetated** classes must be within 20% of each other in terms of their percent composition of the AA (see #10). Abbreviations for surface water durations are as follows: P/P = permanent/perennial; S/I = seasonal/intermittent; T/E = temporary/ephemeral; and A = absent [see instructions for further definitions of these terms])

Structural diversity (see #13)	High								Moderate								Low			
	Even				Uneven				Even				Uneven				Even			
Class cover distribution (all vegetated classes)	Even				Uneven				Even				Uneven				Even			
Duration of surface water in ≥ 10% of AA	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A	P/P	S/I	T/E	A
Low disturbance at AA (see #12)	E	E	E	H	E	E	H	H	E	H	H	M	E	H	M	M	E	H	M	M
Moderate disturbance at AA (see #12)	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	M	M	H	M	M	L	H	M	L	L
High disturbance at AA (see #12)	M	M	M	L	M	M	L	L	M	M	L	L	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	L

iii. **Rating** (use the conclusions from i and ii above and the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Evidence of wildlife use (i)	Wildlife habitat features rating (ii)											
	Exceptional			High			Moderate			Low		
Substantial	1E			.9H			.8H			.7M		
Moderate	.9H			.7M			.5M			.3L		
Minimal	.6M			.4M			.2L			.1L		

Comments Several mammals and birds have been documented within the AA.

14D. General Fish Habitat Rating: (Assess this function if the AA is used by fish or the existing situation is "correctable" such that the AA could be used by fish [i.e., fish use is precluded by perched culvert or other barrier, etc.]. If the AA is not used by fish, fish use is not restorable due to habitat constraints, or is not desired from a management perspective [such as fish entrapped in a canal], then check NA here and proceed to 14E.)

i. **Habitat Quality and Known / Suspected Fish Species in AA** (use matrix to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Duration of surface water in AA	Permanent / Perennial						Seasonal / Intermittent						Temporary / Ephemeral					
	Optimal		Adequate		Poor		Optimal		Adequate		Poor		Optimal		Adequate		Poor	
Aquatic hiding / resting / escape cover	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
Thermal cover optimal / suboptimal	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
FWP Tier I fish species	1E	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.3L
FWP Tier II or Native Game fish species	.9H	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.5M	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.2L
FWP Tier III or Introduced Game fish	.8H	.7M	.6M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.7M	.6M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.2L	.1L
FWP Non-Game Tier IV or No fish species	.5M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.4M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.3L	.2L	.2L	.2L	.2L	.1L	.1L	.1L

Sources used for identifying fish sp. potentially found in AA:

ii. **Modified Rating** (NOTE: Modified score cannot exceed 1 or be less than 0.1)

a) Is fish use of the AA significantly reduced by a culvert, dike, or other man-made structure or activity or is the waterbody included on the current final MDEQ list of waterbodies in need of TMDL development with listed "Probable Impaired Uses" including cold or warm water fishery or aquatic life support, or do aquatic nuisance plant or animal species (see Appendix E) occur in fish habitat? Y N If yes, reduce score in i above by 0.1: **Modified Rating**

b) Does the AA contain a documented spawning area or other critical habitat feature (i.e., sanctuary pool, upwelling area, etc. - specify in comments) for native fish or introduced game fish? Y N If yes, add 0.1 to the adjusted score in i or iia above:

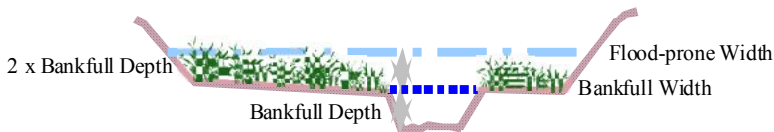
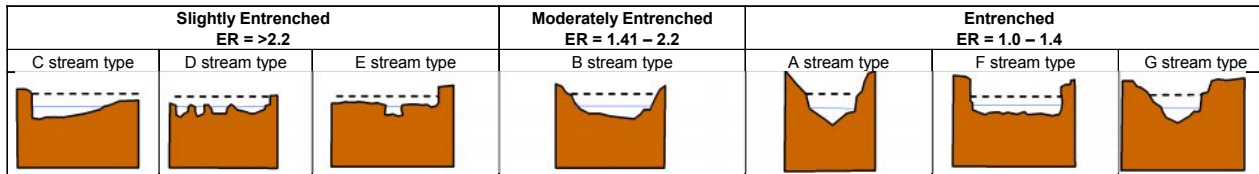
Modified Rating

iii. **Final Score and Rating:** **Comments:**

14E. Flood Attenuation: (Applies only to wetlands subject to flooding via in-channel or overbank flow. If wetlands in AA are not flooded from in-channel or overbank flow, click NA here and proceed to 14F.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Estimated or Calculated Entrenchment (Rosgen 1994, 1996)	Slightly entrenched - C, D, E stream types			Moderately entrenched - B stream type			Entrenched-A, F, G stream types		
	75%	25-75%	<25%	75%	25-75%	<25%	75%	25-75%	<25%
AA contains no outlet or restricted outlet	1H	.9H	.6M	.8H	.7M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
AA contains unrestricted outlet	.9H	.8H	.5M	.7M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L



Floodprone width / Bankfull width = Entrenchment ratio

ii. Are ≥10 acres of wetland in the AA subject to flooding AND are man-made features which may be significantly damaged by floods located within 0.5 mile downstream of the AA (check)? Y N

Comments:

14F. Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage: (Applies to wetlands that flood or pond from overbank or in-channel flow, precipitation, upland surface flow, or groundwater flow. If no wetlands in the AA are subject to flooding or ponding, click NA here and proceed to 14G.)

i. **Rating** (Working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating. Abbreviations for surface water durations are as follows: P/P = permanent/perennial; S/I = seasonal/intermittent; and T/E = temporary/ephemeral [see instructions for further definitions of these terms].)

Estimated maximum acre feet of water contained in wetlands within the AA that are subject to periodic flooding or ponding	>5 acre feet			1.1 to 5 acre feet			≤1 acre foot		
	P/P	S/I	T/E	P/P	S/I	T/E	P/P	S/I	T/E
Wetlands in AA flood or pond ≥ 5 out of 10 years	1H	.9H	.8H	.8H	.6M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
Wetlands in AA flood or pond < 5 out of 10 years	.9H	.8H	.7M	.7M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments:

14G. Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Retention and Removal: (Applies to wetlands with potential to receive sediments, nutrients, or toxicants through influx of surface or ground water or direct input. If no wetlands in the AA are subject to such input, click **NA** here and proceed to 14H.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating [H = high, M = moderate, or L = low])

Sediment, nutrient, and toxicant input levels within AA	AA receives or surrounding land use with potential to deliver levels of sediments, nutrients, or compounds at levels such that other functions are not substantially impaired. Minor sedimentation, sources of nutrients or toxicants, or signs of eutrophication present.				Waterbody on MDEQ list of waterbodies in need of TMDL development for "probable causes" related to sediment, nutrients, or toxicants or AA receives or surrounding land use with potential to deliver high levels of sediments, nutrients, or compounds such that other functions are substantially impaired. Major sedimentation, sources of nutrients or toxicants, or signs of eutrophication present.			
% cover of wetland vegetation in AA	≥ 70%				< 70%			
Evidence of flooding / ponding in AA	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
AA contains no or restricted outlet	1H	.8H	.7M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.3L	.2L
AA contains unrestricted outlet	.9H	.7M	.6M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments: Area subject to flooding during wet seasons and high precipitation events.

14H Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization: (Applies only if AA occurs on or within the banks of a river, stream, or other natural or man-made drainage, or on the shoreline of a standing water body which is subject to wave action. If 14H does not apply, click **NA** here and proceed to 14I.)

i. **Rating** (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

% Cover of <u>wetland</u> streambank or shoreline by species with stability ratings of ≥6 (see Appendix F).	Duration of surface water adjacent to rooted vegetation					
	Permanent / Perennial		Seasonal / Intermittent		Temporary / Ephemeral	
≥ 65%	1H		.9H		.7M	
35-64%	.7M		.6M		.5M	
< 35%	.3L		.2L		.1L	

Comments: The AA contains a plugged ditch that was inundated during the 2014 site visit. A small beaver dam was noted on this ditch in 2014 and further promoted water impoundment. Glyceria, Juncus, Typha and Equisetum were observed on this site.

14I. Production Export/Food Chain Support:

i. **Level of Biological Activity** (synthesis of wildlife and fish habitat ratings [check])

General Fish Habitat Rating (14D.iii.)	General Wildlife Habitat Rating (14C.iii.)		
	E/H	M	L
E/H	H	H	M
M	H	M	M
L	M	M	L
N/A	H	M	L

ii. **Rating** (Working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating. Factor A = acreage of vegetated wetland component in the AA; Factor B = level of biological activity rating from above (14I.i.); Factor C = whether or not the AA contains a surface or subsurface outlet; the final three rows pertain to duration of surface water in the AA, where P/P, S/I, and T/E are as previously defined, and A = "absent" [see instructions for further definitions of these terms].)

A	Vegetated component >5 acres						Vegetated component 1-5 acres						Vegetated component <1 acre					
	High		Moderate		Low		High		Moderate		Low		High		Moderate		Low	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
P/P	1E	.7H	.8H	.5M	.6M	.4M	.9H	.6M	.7H	.4M	.5M	.3L	.8H	.6M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.2L
S/I	.9H	.6M	.7H	.4M	.5M	.3L	.8H	.5M	.6M	.3L	.4M	.2L	.7H	.5M	.5M	.3L	.3L	.2L
T/E/A	.8H	.5M	.6M	.3L	.4M	.2L	.7H	.4M	.5M	.2L	.3L	.1L	.6M	.4M	.4M	.2L	.2L	.1L

iii. **Modified Rating** (NOTE: Modified score cannot exceed 1 or be less than 0.1.) **Vegetated Upland Buffer (VUB):** Area with ≥ 30% plant cover, ≤ 15% noxious weed or ANVS cover, and that is not subjected to periodic mechanical mowing or clearing (unless for weed control).

a) Is there an average ≥ 50 foot-wide vegetated upland buffer around ≥ 75% of the AA circumference? Y N If yes, add 0.1 to the score in ii above and adjust rating accordingly: **Modified Rating** .7M

Comments: Surface outlet assumed to be Murphy Creek on east boundary of AA.

14J. Groundwater Discharge/Recharge: (check the appropriate indicators in i & ii below)

i. Discharge Indicators

- The AA is a slope wetland
- Springs or seeps are known or observed
- Vegetation growing during dormant season/drought
- Wetland occurs at the toe of a natural slope
- Seeps are present at the wetland edge
- AA permanently flooded during drought periods
- Wetland contains an outlet, but no inlet
- Shallow water table and the site is saturated to the surface
- Other:

ii. Recharge Indicators

- Permeable substrate present without underlying impeding layer
- Wetland contains inlet but no outlet
- Stream is a known 'losing' stream; discharge volume decreases
- Other:

iii. Rating (use the information from i and ii above and the table below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Criteria	Duration of saturation at AA Wetlands <i>FROM GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE OR WITH WATER THAT IS RECHARGING THE GROUNDWATER SYSTEM</i>			
	P/P	S/I	T	None
Groundwater Discharge or Recharge	1H	.7M	.4M	.1L
Insufficient Data/Information	NA			

Comments:

14K. Uniqueness:

i. Rating (working from top to bottom, use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Replacement potential	AA contains fen, bog, warm springs or mature (>80 yr-old) forested wetland or plant association listed as "S1" by the MTNHP			AA does not contain previously cited rare types and structural diversity (#13) is high or contains plant association listed as "S2" by the MTNHP			AA does not contain previously cited rare types or associations and structural diversity (#13) is low-moderate		
	rare	common	abundant	rare	common	abundant	rare	common	abundant
Low disturbance at AA (#12i)	1H	.9H	.8H	.8H	.6M	.5M	.5M	.4M	.3L
Moderate disturbance at AA (#12i)	.9H	.8H	.7M	.7M	.5M	.4M	.4M	.3L	.2L
High disturbance at AA (#12i)	.8H	.7H	.6M	.6M	.4M	.3L	.3L	.2L	.1L

Comments:

14L. Recreation/Education Potential: (affords "bonus" points if AA provides recreation or education opportunity)

i. Is the AA a known or potential rec.ed. site: (check) Y N NA (if 'Yes' continue with the evaluation; if 'No' then click NA here and proceed to the overall summary and rating page)

ii. Check categories that apply to the AA: Educational/scientific study; Consumptive rec.; Non-consumptive rec.; Other

iii. Rating (use the matrix below to arrive at [check] the functional points and rating)

Known or Potential Recreation or Education Area	Known	Potential
Public ownership or public easement with general public access (no permission required)	.2H	.15H
Private ownership with general public access (no permission required)	.15H	.1M
Private or public ownership without general public access, or requiring permission for public access	.1M	.05L

Comments:

General Site Notes

Function & Value Variables	Rating	Actual Functional Points	Possible Functional Points	Functional Units: (Actual Points x Estimated AA Acreage)	Indicate the four most prominent functions with an asterisk (*)
A. Listed/Proposed T&E Species Habitat	L	.3	1	0.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. MT Natural Heritage Program Species Habitat	M	.6	1	1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. General Wildlife Habitat	M	.7	1	1.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
D. General Fish Habitat	NA	0	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. Flood Attenuation	M	.6	1	1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
F. Short and Long Term Surface Water Storage	M	.6	1	1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
G. Sediment/Nutrient/Toxicant Removal	H	1	1	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
H. Sediment/Shoreline Stabilization	H	.9	1	1.8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I. Production Export/Food Chain Support	M	.7	1	1.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
J. Groundwater Discharge/Recharge	M	.7	1	1.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
K. Uniqueness	L	.3	1	0.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
L. Recreation/Education Potential (bonus points)	M	.1	NA	0.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:		6.5	10	13	
Percent of Possible Score			65 %		

Category I Wetland: (must satisfy **one** of the following criteria; otherwise go to Category II)

- Score of 1 functional point for Listed/Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species; **or**
- Score of 1 functional point for Uniqueness; **or**
- Score of 1 functional point for Flood Attenuation **and** answer to Question 14E.ii is "yes"; **or**
- Percent of possible score > 80% (round to nearest whole #).

Category II Wetland: (Criteria for Category I not satisfied **and** meets any **one** of the following criteria; otherwise go to Category IV)

- Score of 1 functional point for MT Natural Heritage Program Species Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 or 1 functional point for General Wildlife Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 or 1 functional point for General Fish Habitat; **or**
- "High" to "Exceptional" ratings for **both** General Wildlife Habitat **and** General Fish/Aquatic Habitat; **or**
- Score of .9 functional point for Uniqueness; **or**
- Percent of possible score > 65% (round to nearest whole #).

Category III Wetland: (Criteria for Categories I, II, or IV not satisfied)

-

Category IV Wetland: (Criteria for Categories I or II are not satisfied and all of the following criteria are met; otherwise go to Category III)

- "Low" rating for Uniqueness; **and**
- Vegetated wetland component < 1 acre (do not include upland vegetated buffer); **and**
- Percent of possible score < 35% (round to nearest whole #).

OVERALL ANALYSIS AREA RATING:
(check appropriate category based on the criteria outlined above)

I	II	III	IV
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Appendix C

Project Site Photographs

MDT Wetland Mitigation Monitoring
Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch
Park County, Montana



Photo Point 1
Compass Bearing: 170 degrees

Location: West boundary near Hwy 89, NW Cell 2
Taken in 2010



Photo Point 1
Compass Bearing: 170 degrees

Location: West boundary near Hwy 89, NW Cell 2
Taken in 2013



Photo Point 1
Compass Bearing: 170 degrees

Location: West boundary near Hwy 89, NW Cell 2
Taken in 2014



Photo Point 2
Compass Bearing: 350 degrees

Location: SE corner of Cell 2
Taken in 2010



Photo Point 2
Compass Bearing: 350 degrees

Location: SE corner of Cell 2
Taken in 2013



Photo Point 2
Compass Bearing: 350 degrees

Location: SE corner of Cell 2
Taken in 2014



Photo Point 3
Compass Bearing: 50 degrees

Location: SW corner of Cell 1
Taken in 2010



Photo Point 3
Compass Bearing: 50 degrees

Location: SW corner of Cell 1
Taken in 2013



Photo Point 3
Compass Bearing: 50 degrees

Location: SW corner of Cell 1
Taken in 2014



Photo Point 4 – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 140 Degrees

Location: Ditch inlet
Taken in 2010



Photo Point 5 – Photo 1 **Location:** North side Cell 1
Compass Bearing: 180 Deg **Taken in 2010**



Photo Point 4 – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 140 Degrees

Location: Ditch inlet
Taken in 2013



Photo Point 5 – Photo 1 **Location:** North side Cell 1
Compass Bearing: 180 Deg **Taken in 2013**



Photo Point 4 – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 140 Degrees

Location: Ditch inlet
Taken in 2014



Photo Point 5 – Photo 1 **Location:** North side Cell 1
Compass Bearing: 180 Deg **Taken in 2014**



Transect 1 - Start – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 70 Degrees

Location: SW Cell 2
Taken in 2010



Transect 1 - End – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 280 Degrees

Location: NE Cell 2
Taken in 2010



Transect 1 - Start – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 70 Degrees

Location: SW Cell 2
Taken in 2013



Transect 1 - End – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 280 Degrees

Location: NE Cell 2
Taken in 2013



Transect 1 - Start – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 70 Degrees

Location: SW Cell 2
Taken in 2014



Transect 1 - End – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 280 Degrees

Location: NE Cell 2
Taken in 2014



Transect 2 - Start – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 200 Degrees

Location: NW Cell 1
Taken in 2010



Transect 2 - End – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 30 Degrees

Location: SE Cell 1
Taken in 2010



Transect 2 - Start – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 200 Degrees

Location: NW Cell 1
Taken in 2013



Transect 2 - End – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 30 Degrees

Location: SE Cell 1
Taken in 2013



Transect 2 - Start – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 200 Degrees

Location: NW Cell 1
Taken in 2014



Transect 2 - End – Photo 1
Compass Bearing: 30 Degrees

Location: SE Cell 1
Taken in 2014



Wetland Data Point M-1 **Location:** Veg Comm 14
Compass Bearing: n/a **Taken in 2014**



Wetland Data Point M-2 **Location:** Veg Comm 5
Compass Bearing: n/a **Taken in 2014**



Wetland Data Point M-3 **Location:** Veg Comm 17
Compass Bearing: n/a **Taken in 2014**

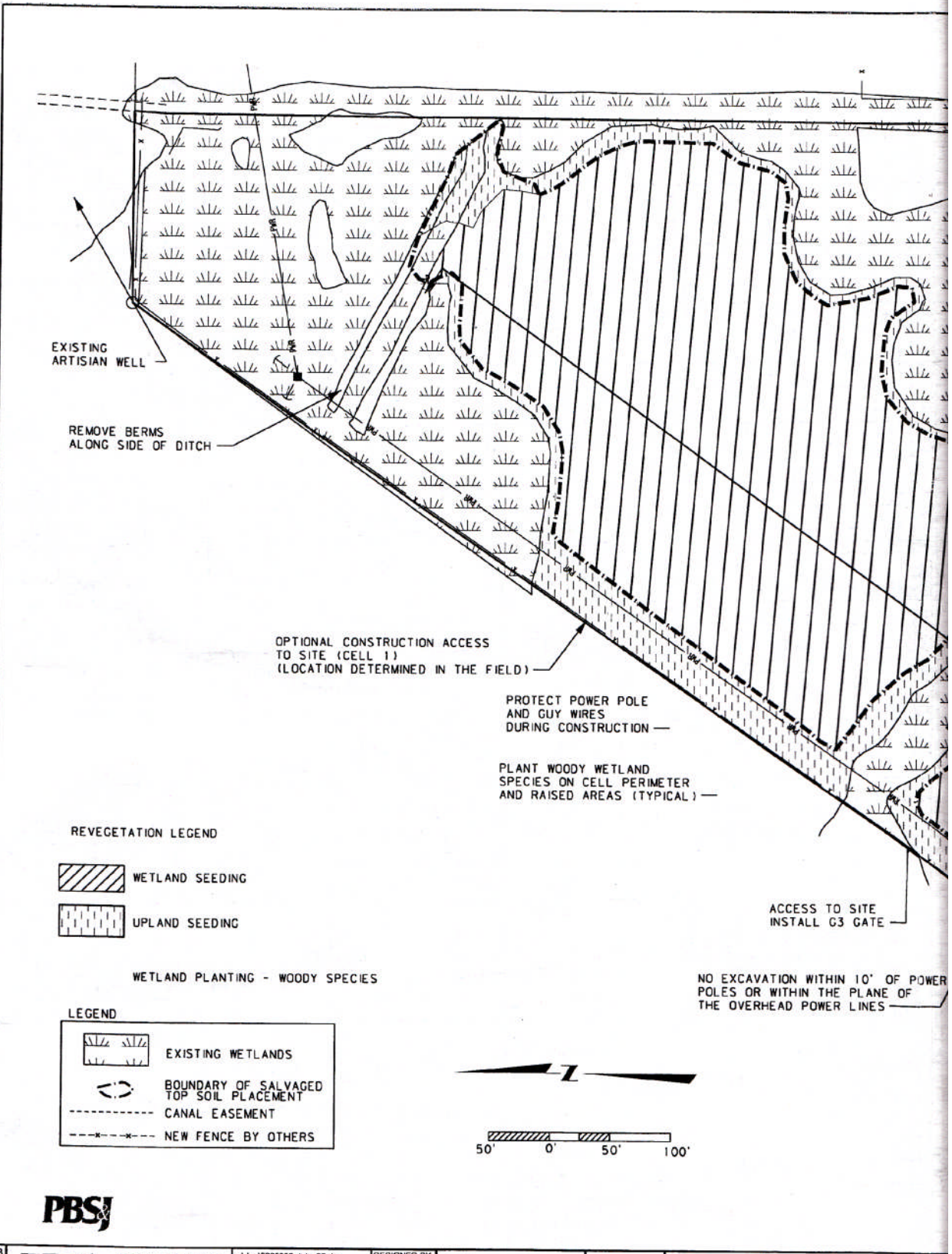


Wetland Data Point M-4 **Location:** Veg Comm 1
Compass Bearing: n/a **Taken in 2014**

Appendix D

Project Plan Sheet

MDT Wetland Mitigation Monitoring
Murphy Ox Yoke Ranch
Park County, Montana







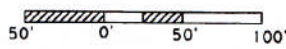
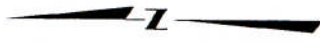
REVEGETATION LEGEND


-  WETLAND SEEDING
-  UPLAND SEEDING

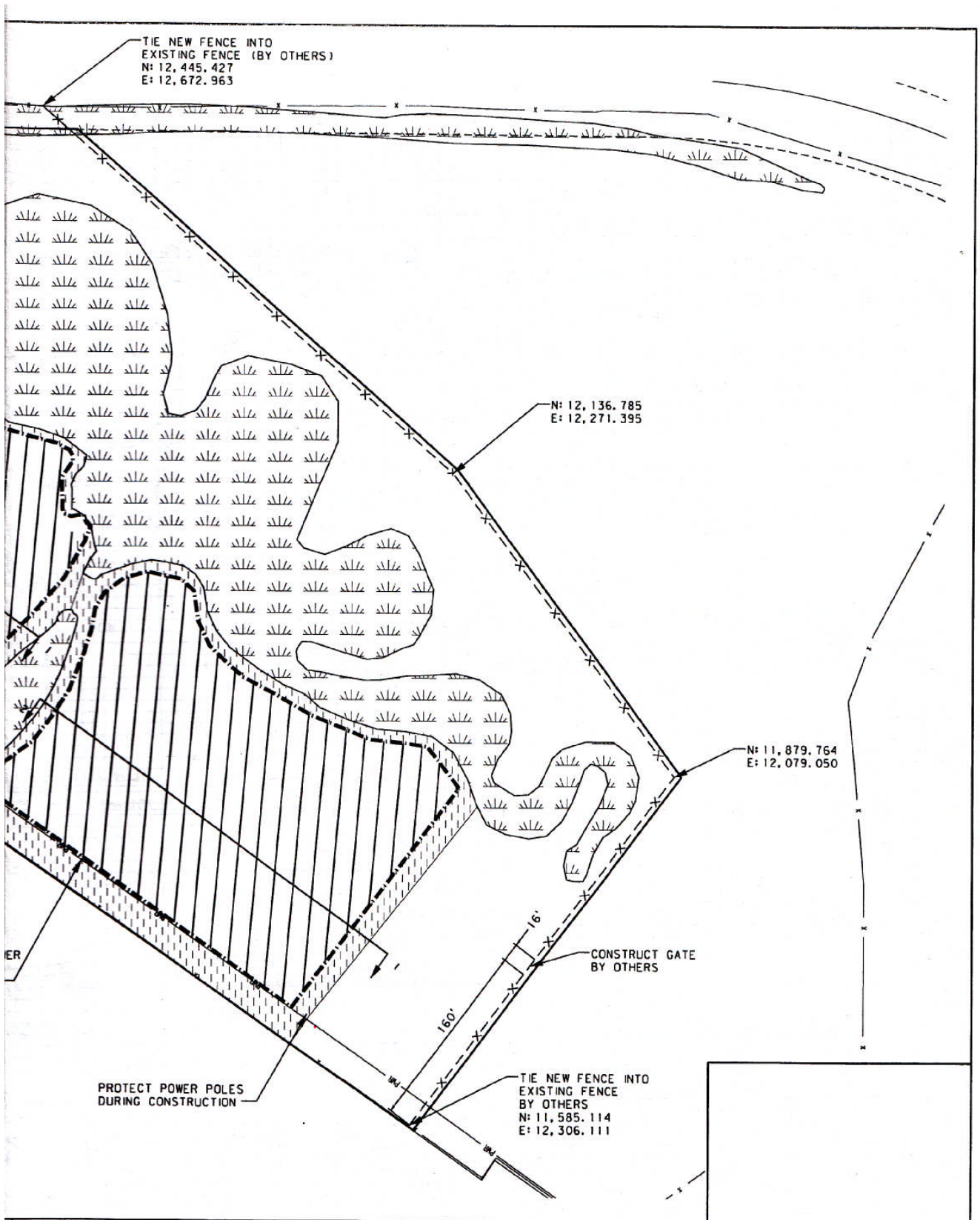
WETLAND PLANTING - WOODY SPECIES

LEGEND

-  EXISTING WETLANDS
-  BOUNDARY OF SALVAGED TOP SOIL PLACEMENT
-  CANAL EASEMENT
-  NEW FENCE BY OTHERS



<p>3</p> <p>2</p> <p>1</p>	 <p>MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> <p><i>serving you with pride</i></p>	<p>c:\dgn\522800\rd\p203.dgn</p>	DESIGNED BY			
		<p>7/23/2009</p>	REVIEWED BY			
		<p>11:35:05 AM</p>	CHECKED BY			
			PARK COUNTY			



MURPHY OX YOKE RANCH WETLAND		STPX 34(16)
CSF - N/A	IPN 522R000	SHEET 11 OF 12